

Where are the children? An overview of child care arrangements in Canada

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CANADIAN NATIONAL CHILD CARE STUDY

WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN? AN OVERVIEW OF CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS IN CANADA

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The Canadian National Child Care Study is a cooperative research project among members of the National Day Care Research Network, Statistics Canada, and Health and Welfare Canada. Primary funding was provided by the Child Care Initiatives Fund, Health and Welfare Canada with supplemental funds provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and the Provinces of Ontario and New Brunswick.

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March, 1993
Canada: \$25.00 per issue
United States: US \$30.00 per issue
Other Countries: US \$35.00 per issue

Catalogue 89-527E
ISBN 0-660-14291-0
Ottawa

The opinions and interpretations expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Health and Welfare Canada or Statistics Canada.

Canadian Cataloguing in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

Canadian National Child Care Study : where
are the children? : an overview of child care
arrangements in Canada

Issued also in French under title: Étude nationale
canadienne sur la garde des enfants : où sont les
enfants? : aperçu des modalités de garde des
enfants au Canada.

"The Canadian National Child Care Study is a cooperative
research project among members of the National Day Care
Research Network, Statistics Canada, and Health and
Welfare Canada."

ISBN 0-660-14291-0
CS89-527E

1. Child care -- Canada -- Statistics.
2. Child care services -- Canada -- Statistics. I. Goelman, Hillel, 1951-
II. National Day Care Research Network. III. Statistics Canada.
IV. Canada. Health and Welfare Canada. V. Title.

HV745.A6 C36 1993 362.7'12'0971021
C93-099355-1



TABLE OF CONTENTS

HIGHLIGHTS	13
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	14
Chapter 1	
INTRODUCTION	15
1.1 Where are the children? A human ecology approach	16
1.2 Previous studies of child care use patterns	16
1.3 Canadian families and the Canadian National Child Care Study	17
a. Child care used in a specific week	18
b. The ages of the children	18
c. Different types of child care	18
d. Reason(s) for child care	19
e. Children who attend school	19
f. Different kinds of families	19
g. National and provincial perspectives	19
1.4 The organization of this report	20
1.5 The context of this report	20
Chapter 2	
THE SAMPLE	21
2.1 Families and children	23
2.2 The Interviewed Parent (IP) and the child care interview	28
Chapter 3	
PARENTAL, NON-PARENTAL, AND PAID CHILD CARE	31
3.1 There are six categories of child care	31
3.2 Parents at work and children in school	33
3.3 Children in supplemental child care	33
3.4 Children in exclusive parental child care and children in non-parental child care	35
3.5 Paid and unpaid child care	36
3.6 Summary	38
Chapter 4	
HOW MANY CHILDREN IN WHAT KINDS OF CHILD CARE AND FOR HOW MANY HOURS?	39
4.1 Child care used for children aged 0 to 17 months	40
4.2 Child care used for children aged 18 to 35 months	46
4.3 Child care used for children aged 3 to 5 years	53
4.4 Child care used for children aged 6 to 9 years	61
4.5 Child care used for children aged 10 to 12 years	68
4.6 Summary	73

Chapter 5	
OVERVIEW OF THE FINDINGS	75
5.1 Where are the children?	75
5.2 Conclusion	77
ENDNOTES	77
REFERENCES	79
APPENDICES	81
APPENDIX A: NEWFOUNDLAND	81
A-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Newfoundland, 1988	81
A-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Newfoundland, 1988	81
A-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Newfoundland, 1988	81
APPENDIX B: PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	82
B-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Prince Edward Island, 1988	82
B-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Prince Edward Island, 1988	82
B-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Prince Edward Island, 1988	82
APPENDIX C: NOVA SCOTIA	83
C-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Nova Scotia, 1988	83
C-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Nova Scotia, 1988	83
C-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Nova Scotia, 1988	83
APPENDIX D: NEW BRUNSWICK	84
D-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, New Brunswick, 1988	84
D-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, New Brunswick, 1988	84
D-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, New Brunswick, 1988	84
APPENDIX E: QUEBEC	85
E-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Quebec, 1988	85
E-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Quebec, 1988	85
E-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Quebec, 1988	85

APPENDIX F: ONTARIO	86
F-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Ontario, 1988	86
F-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Ontario, 1988	86
F-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Ontario, 1988	86
APPENDIX G: MANITOBA	87
G-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Manitoba, 1988	87
G-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Manitoba, 1988	87
G-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Manitoba, 1988	87
APPENDIX H: SASKATCHEWAN	88
H-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Saskatchewan, 1988	88
H-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Saskatchewan, 1988	88
H-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Saskatchewan, 1988	88
APPENDIX I: ALBERTA	89
I-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Alberta, 1988	89
I-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Alberta, 1988	89
I-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Alberta, 1988	89
APPENDIX J: BRITISH COLUMBIA	90
J-1: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, British Columbia, 1988	90
J-2: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, British Columbia, 1988	90
J-3: Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, British Columbia, 1988	90

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1	Distribution of Canadian Children Under Age 13, 1988	21
Table 2	Distribution of Children in the Survey, by Age, Canada, 1988	22
Table 3	Distribution of Survey Samples and Populations, Canada and the Provinces, 1988	22
Table 4	Families With Children in Selected Age Groups, Canada, 1988	23
Table 5	Children Under Age 13 in One- and Two-parent Families, Canada and the Provinces, 1988	24
Table 6	Children Under 13 in One- and Two-parent Families, by Age, Canada, 1988	24
Table 7	Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, All Children, Canada, 1988	25
Table 8	Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 0 to 17 Months, Canada, 1988	25
Table 9	Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 18 to 35 Months, Canada, 1988	26
Table 10	Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 3 to 5 Years, Canada, 1988	26
Table 11	Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 6 to 9 Years, Canada, 1988	27
Table 12	Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 10 to 12 Years, Canada, 1988	27
Table 13	Unusual Circumstances Regarding Child Care During the Reference Week, Canada, 1988	28
Table 14	Relationship of the Interviewed Parent (IP) to Children Under Age 13 in the Economic Family, Canada, 1988	28
Table 15	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in at Least One Supplemental Child Care Arrangement, by Age, Canada, 1988	33
Table 16	Number of Children in Zero, One, Two, and Three or More Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988	34
Table 17	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988	35
Table 18	Number of Children in Zero, One, Two, and Three or More Non-parental Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988	36
Table 19	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care Arrangements, by Age, 1988	37

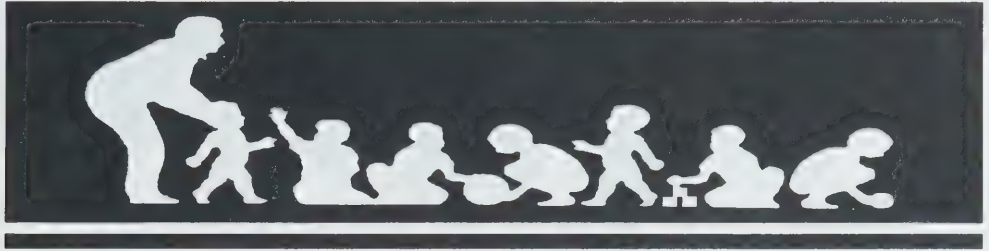
Table 20	Number of Children in Zero, One, Two, and Three or More Paid Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988	37
Table 21	Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 0 to 17 Months, Canada, 1988	40
Table 22	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 0 to 17 Months, Canada, 1988	41
Table 23	Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 18 to 35 Months, Canada, 1988	47
Table 24	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 18 to 35 Months, Canada, 1988	47
Table 25	Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 3 to 5 Years, Canada, 1988	53
Table 26	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 3 to 5 Years, Canada, 1988	54
Table 27	Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 6 to 9 Years, Canada, 1988	61
Table 28	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 6 to 9 Years, Canada, 1988	62
Table 29	Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 10 to 12 Years, Canada, 1988	68
Table 30	Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 10 to 12 Years, Canada, 1988	68

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1	CNCCS Child Care Arrangements	32
Figure 2	Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 0 to 17 Months	41
Figure 3	Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, 0 to 17 Months	42
Figure 4	Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 0 to 17 Months	43
Figure 5	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months	43
Figure 6	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months	44
Figure 7	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months	44

Figure 8	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months	45
Figure 9	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 0 to 17 Months ...	45
Figure 10	Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 18 to 35 Months	48
Figure 11	Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, 18 to 35 Months	49
Figure 12	Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 18 to 35 Months	49
Figure 13	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months	50
Figure 14	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months	50
Figure 15	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months	51
Figure 16	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months	51
Figure 17	Distribution of Hours in a Day Care Centre, 18 to 35 Months ...	52
Figure 18	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 18 to 35 Months	52
Figure 19	Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 3 to 5 Years	54
Figure 20	Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, 3 to 5 Years ..	55
Figure 21	Distribution of Hours in Nursery School, 3 to 5 Years	55
Figure 22	Distribution of Hours in Kindergarten, 3 to 5 Years	56
Figure 23	Distribution of Hours in School, 3 to 5 Years	56
Figure 24	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years	57
Figure 25	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years	57
Figure 26	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years	58
Figure 27	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years	58
Figure 28	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 3 to 5 Years	59
Figure 29	Distribution of Hours in a Day Care Centre, 3 to 5 Years	59
Figure 30	Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 3 to 5 Years ...	60
Figure 31	Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 6 to 9 Years	62
Figure 32	Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Including School, 6 to 9 Years	63
Figure 33	Distribution of Hours in School, 6 to 9 Years	63

Figure 34	Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Excluding School, 6 to 9 Years	64
Figure 35	Distribution of Hours in Before and After School Programs, 6 to 9 Years	64
Figure 36	Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 6 to 9 Years	65
Figure 37	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 6 to 9 Years	65
Figure 38	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 6 to 9 Years	66
Figure 39	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 6 to 9 Years	66
Figure 40	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 6 to 9 Years	67
Figure 41	Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 10 to 12 Years	69
Figure 42	Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Including School, 10 to 12 Years	70
Figure 43	Distribution of Hours in School, 10 to 12 Years	70
Figure 44	Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Excluding School, 10 to 12 Years	71
Figure 45	Distribution of Hours in Before and After School Programs, 10 to 12 Years	71
Figure 46	Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 10 to 12 Years	72
Figure 47	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 10 to 12 Years	72
Figure 48	Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 10 to 12 Years	73



THE CANADIAN NATIONAL CHILD CARE STUDY

The Canadian National Child Care Study is a collaborative research project involving four academic researchers affiliated with the National Day Care Research Network, and the Special Surveys Group, Household Surveys Division of Statistics Canada. The study was funded by Health and Welfare Canada through its Child Care Initiatives Fund and by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, with additional funding from the governments of Ontario and New Brunswick. The study consists of two linked but separate research projects: a comprehensive national survey of Canadian families with at least one child younger than 13 years of age, and a history and analysis of child care in each province and territory.

This document is one of a series of research reports based on the 1988 National Child Care Survey which focuses on the relationship between parents' work lives and child care. Other reports focus on children and their care arrangements, Canadian families and their child care arrangements, and specific thematic issues, such as the affordability and availability of child care in Canada. A separate report is available that provides an overview of this major study, including its goals and objectives, and detailed information about methodology and procedures. Readers requiring additional information may contact any of the following persons:



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HIGHLIGHTS

- The majority (57%) of Canadian children under the age of 13 participate in at least one non-parental child care arrangement in a given week. The children spend an average of 18.3 hours per week in non-parental care.
 - Children of all ages spend at least part of their week in non-parental child care. Of infants (0 to 17 months old) 55% were in non-parental care for an average of 25.4 hours. Of toddlers (18 to 35 months), 63.5% were in such care for an average of 25.4 hours. Of preschoolers (3 to 5 years), 79.4% were in such care for an average of 23.9 hours.
 - 48.1% of 6 to 9 year olds spent an average of 11.7 hours a week in non-parental child care, excluding school. Of 10 to 12 year olds, 46.2% spent an average of 10.6 hours in such care.
 - The largest proportion of infants were cared for by a relative in the relative's home (17.7%) or in an unlicensed family day care home (15.9%); the smallest proportion were enrolled in a day care centre (3.2%).
 - Infants in day care centres spent an average of 30.9 hours in such care. Infants in a relative's home spent an average of 16.9 hours in such care. Of infants, 15.9% of children were in unlicensed family day care for an average of 25.4 hours.
 - For toddlers (18 to 35 months) informal child care arrangements were used most frequently: 18.5% were in the care of family members, 16.1% were in the care of relatives and 19.4% were in the care of unlicensed family day care providers. Least used were licensed facilities: 5.7% of toddlers were in nursery school, 9.6% were in day care centres, 2.1% were in licensed family day care programs.
 - Like infants, toddlers spent more time in licensed day care centres and licensed family day care homes than in the care of family members or relatives. Toddlers spent an average of 30.1 hours a week in day care centres and 26.8 hours in licensed family day care homes compared with an average of 16.1 hours in the care of a family member and 16.7 hours in the care of a relative. Unlicensed family day care was the only informal setting where toddlers spent a comparable amount of time (26.3 hours) to that in regulated settings (30.1 hours).
 - Of 3 to 5 year olds, 30% were enrolled in kindergarten programs for an average of 12.8 hours per week and 19.4% were in nursery school programs for an average of 9.4 hours per week. Other day care arrangements used frequently include care by a family member (20.1%), unlicensed family day care (17.6%) and care by a relative (13.8%).
 - For 6 to 9 year olds, the most frequently used child care arrangements, excluding school, were care by a family member (29.2%), care in an unlicensed family day care home (12.8%), care by a relative in the relative's home (8.8%) and care by a non-relative in the child's home (8.8%).
 - For 10 to 12 year olds, the most frequently used arrangements (not counting school) were care by a family member (43.9%), care by the Interviewed Parent at work (6.0%) and care by a family member not in the child's home.
-



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Canadian National Child Care Study is a unique example of cooperation and collaboration among researchers, government, and professionals in the child care field. The project was conceived by members of the National Day Care Research Network (NDCRN) at its first organizational meeting in December 1983. Since 1984, the four principal investigators have worked in close cooperation with the Special Surveys Group of Statistics Canada, and in particular with Mr. T. Scott Murray, currently Assistant Director, Household Surveys Division. Individuals at Statistics Canada who deserve special thanks include Margot Shields, who was the senior methodologist and contributed to the study in many ways, Sue Lafrance, Wilma Shastry, Hank Hoffman, Rita Nesich Green, Jill Bench, Danielle Baum and Cindy Sceviour. Richard Veevers provided valuable comments and suggestions on this report.

The study would not have developed without the strong support of Health and Welfare Canada. We are particularly indebted to Mr. Evariste Theriault (National Welfare Grants) and Mr. Howard Clifford (National Child Care Information Centre), who served as the very able "godparents" of the project, and to the Child Care Initiatives Program, particularly Dr. Don Ogston, Ms. Sharon Gribbon, and Mrs. Dorothy Jetté, for providing major funding and encouragement. Other funding sources we gratefully acknowledge include the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Employment and Immigration Canada, and the governments of Ontario and New Brunswick.

We are also indebted to our very competent research site team members, including data analysts, research assistants, and secretaries. Special thanks go to Oliva dela Cruz, Pat Brown, Catherine Andersen and Norm Phillips, and Beth Warkentin for their assistance with this report. This project could not have been completed without the support provided by our respective universities (the University of Guelph, University of Victoria, University of British Columbia, and University of Manitoba) and it is a pleasure to acknowledge them for their contributions to this research endeavour.

Finally, thanks are extended to the interviewers who participated in the study and to the parents who took time from their busy schedules to share their thoughts and experiences with us.

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

This report is one of a series based on the Canadian National Child Care Study¹ (CNCCS). It was funded primarily by Health and Welfare Canada. Supplemental support was provided by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and by the governments of Ontario and New Brunswick. The study was developed by the National Day Care Research Network and was conducted in cooperation with the Household Surveys Division of Statistics Canada.

The CNCCS was designed to provide accurate, detailed information about Canadian child care. The CNCCS differs from previous child care studies in several ways. In addition to information on child care regulated by provincial or territorial legislation, the CNCCS examines “informal child care”. Informal arrangements include self-care, often called “latch-key” arrangements, care provided by parents and other family members, neighbours, friends and by licensed and unlicensed in-home providers. The CNCCS also provides reliable estimates of the number of children using these informal arrangements. Further, differentiating between paid and unpaid informal day care allowed the CNCCS to examine familial, non-familial, formal and informal child care separately. Finally, the CNCCS examines care used by at-home parents as well as care arrangements used while parents work, study, participate in voluntary organizations or attend to personal and family matters.

The types of child care covered by the CNCCS can be illustrated by one fictitious Canadian family.

Bill Fraser and Maddy Osborne live in Winnipeg. Bill is a salesperson for a chain of stores. Maddy works part time as a travel agent. Their children are 10 year old Sam and 4 year old Katie. They are currently expecting their third child.

Bill works 55 to 60 hours a week including some weekends, evenings and travel. He travels out of town at least twice a month. Maddy works all day Monday and Tuesday, and Wednesday morning.

Maddy often goes to her office on Sunday to catch up on work. If Bill is in town, he cares for the children. If he is not, Maddy arranges child care.

Sam attends a YMCA after-school program Monday and Thursday. On Tuesday after school, he walks to his aunt's home who cares for him until his parents return from work. Most Wednesdays he goes directly home and watches his sister Katie while their mother shops and cleans the house. Other Wednesdays he either goes to a friend's house or to hockey practice.

Weekday mornings, Katie goes to the church nursery school. On Monday and Tuesday, she spends the afternoon at the home of a caregiver, Mrs. Billingsly, who picks her up from the nursery school. Mrs. Billingsly is not related to the family and she is paid for this care. Thus, Maddy is able to work all day Monday and Tuesday, and Wednesday morning. On Thursday morning Maddy shops for her mother. On Friday she attends a fitness class.

When both Bill and Maddy do volunteer work at the community centre (at least two nights a week), they ask Stephanie, the 16-year-old across the street, to babysit.

The Fraser family uses a combination of in-home, out-of-home, formal, informal, paid and unpaid child care. These arrangements reflect the children's needs, the parents' work patterns, the availability of child care in the community, and the parents' preferences for and satisfaction with certain types of child care. The arrival of their third child will further complicate their child care arrangements.

There are 2.7 million families in Canada who, like the Frasers, have children under 13.

1.1 Where are the children? A human ecology approach

In part, the CNCCS was guided by the writings of both Urie Bronfenbrenner (1979) and Valerie Suransky (1982). Bronfenbrenner's notion of a "human ecology approach" to child development stressed the importance of seeing the child in the real-life contexts of family, community and society. Similarly, Suransky has argued for research which acknowledges the "life-space" of the child, the reality of the child's experiences in the organization of time, space and other people.

With these views in mind, the CNCCS was designed to examine many aspects of child care overlooked in other studies:

- the term "child care" refers to a variety of formal and informal arrangements;
- children are in child care for different reasons;
- children are often in more than one type of child care;
- child care use is influenced by parental preferences, work patterns, and children's needs;
- the use of child care is affected by affordability and availability.

1.2 Previous studies of child care use patterns

Describing child care use, especially on a national level, is challenging. How would previous studies have described the Fraser family's child care patterns? How would the Frasers have been described in the CNCCS?

Health and Welfare's National Child Care Information Centre reports on child care in Canada. That department's annual report, **Status of Day Care in Canada**, provides information on licensed day care facilities in Canada. This information includes the number of licensed day care centres and family day care homes; estimates full-time spaces in these facilities; and the number of licensed private centres and homes run by non-profit agencies and by municipalities. This information is based on provincial reports, not on surveys of day care users.

The **Status of Day Care** reports would not have reported fully on the Fraser family's day care use. In tabulating "licensed spaces", the reports would record Katie's "space" in the nursery school and Sam's "space" in the YMCA's after-school program; however, they would not have recorded how much time Katie or Sam spent in these spaces. Indeed, in Sam's case, if he were "sharing a space" with a child who comes to the program on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the reports would not note this fact. Further, the reports would have combined Katie's half-day nursery school with full-time day care centres in their tabulations.

By tabulating only licensed day care, the reports would not have recorded any of the Fraser family's "informal" child care, including Bill's and Maddy's parental care, the unlicensed day care provider (Mrs. Billingsly), Sam's aunt, Sam's care of himself and of Katie, or the paid baby sitter.

A further limitation in counting only individual spaces is the impossibility of assessing how child care use differs by family structure, family size and children's age. For the Frasers, child care for Sam and Katie is coordinated to provide the best "fit" of the children's interests, the family's needs, and the availability and affordability of different options. The effects of siblings on a given child's care arrangement or a given child's combination of different child care arrangements cannot be determined from the Health and Welfare reports.

Attempts have been made in Canada to provide clearer descriptions of child care use. A 1973 survey by Statistics Canada (1975) targeted only women who were in the labour force in the preceding 12 months. In a departure from this approach, a later survey, Statistics Canada (1981), included women who were not in the labour force. This survey, however, grouped the children into broad age categories (0 to 5, 6 to 14). Thus, it was impossible to differentiate how child care was used by infants, toddlers, preschoolers or school-aged children.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census (1987, 1990) surveyed working mothers and working single fathers on the formal and informal child care used by the three youngest children under age 15. The sample included only parents who were employed at the time of the study. Only broad categories of "primary" and "secondary" arrangements were studied. The surveys did not record how much time children spent in different types of child care.

If the Fraser family had participated in any of these surveys, the complexity of their child care arrangements would have been impossible to capture. The **Status of Day Care** reports would have counted the licensed spaces that were used, but not the hours the children spent in them or in informal child care. The 1973 Statistics Canada report might not have included Maddy in the survey of working women if she had been on maternity leave. Statistics Canada's 1981 survey would have included Maddy and her children, but Katie's unique combination of child care arrangements would not have been recorded.

Differing provincial approaches to child care have made studying it difficult. Conflicting provincial definitions of child care hamper interprovincial and national descriptions of child care. For example, "kindergarten" refers to different programs in different provinces. Ontario publicly funds kindergarten for five-year-olds and junior kindergartens for four-year-olds, while other provinces such as New Brunswick do not publicly fund kindergarten. Similarly, "licensed family day care" in British Columbia is operated, licensed and regulated differently than "licensed family home day care" in Ontario. Provinces may also use different methods and time frames to collect and report data on child care spaces.

1.3 Canadian families and the Canadian National Child Care Study

This study assesses how more than 2 million Canadian families use child care. The CNCCS used a large sample and a detailed survey interview. For more information on the sample, see Chapter 2. For more information on sampling techniques, refer to the **Canadian National Child Care Study: Introductory Report** (Lero, Pence, Shields, Brockman & Goelman, 1992) and **Methodology of the Canadian Labour Force Survey** (Statistics Canada, 1976).

The survey covered 24,155 families and their 42,131 children under age 13. In each family, one adult was interviewed about family characteristics, parental work patterns and child care for children under age 13. The Interviewed Parent (IP) was responsible for arranging child care. When child care was a joint responsibility, the female parent was selected as the IP. In 95.5% of households, the IP was female. The survey included parents in and out of the labour force.

To best describe the child care used by Canadian families with children under 13, it is important to define the following: (a) the specific time frame in which child care is used; (b) the ages of children in care; (c) the types of child care in which children participate; (d) the main reason(s) child care is needed; (e) children's school attendance; (f) family characteristics such as size and structure; and (g) national and provincial child care use.

a. Child care used in a specific week

The CNCCS collected data for a reference week: the Sunday to Saturday, seven-day period immediately preceding the child care interview. All reference weeks fell between September 8 and October 23, 1988. The survey focused primarily on child care used in the reference week although there were some questions addressed to the family's child care arrangements in the previous 12 months. IP's were asked to indicate if the reference week was exceptional.

b. The ages of the children

Since child care use is influenced by a child's age, the CNCCS data can be analyzed for five age groups: infants (0 to 17 months); toddlers (18 to 35 months); preschoolers (3 to 5 years); 6 to 9 year-olds; and 10 to 12 year-olds. These age groupings are similar to those used in the **Status of Day Care in Canada** reports. Subsequent CNCCS reports will focus on day care arrangements for specific age groups (e.g., infants) in greater detail.

c. Different types of child care

The survey asked IP's the number of hours per week their children were involved in the following child care arrangements:

- IP in the family home
- IP in that parent's workplace
- Spouse of IP in the spouse's workplace
- Spouse of IP in the family home
- Immediate family members in the family home
- Other relatives in the family home
- Non-relatives in the family home
- Relatives outside the family home
- Licensed non-relative outside the family home
- Non-licensed non-relative outside the family home
- Day care centre
- Nursery school
- Kindergarten
- Before and After school program
- School attendance

d. Reason(s) for child care

This report provides a broad overview for the reasons child care is used by Canadian families.

1. To stimulate children's physical, intellectual and emotional development; to promote their personal competence; and to help them develop social skills through interaction with other children and adults.
2. To provide children with care when their parents are working or looking for work.
3. To provide children with care when parents are in school or in job training.
4. To provide special needs children with specially designed stimulation and remediation in a setting allowing social interaction with other children and adults.
5. To support families with special needs such as families in which parents have serious health problems, families in distress, families with a background or risk of child abuse or families with handicapped or chronically ill children.
6. To support families in specific times of peak need such as parental illness, family emergency, seasonal employment or breakdowns in existing child care arrangements.
7. To provide children with care when parents are engaged in volunteer, community, religious or other activities.

e. Children who attend school

The child care needs of school-aged children present specific challenges. For example, Sam Fraser needs care during the two afternoons a week that both of his parents work. Sam does not attend the same type of child care on any two consecutive days after school.

Chapter 3 examines how much time children spend in non-parental and paid child care settings, excluding school. Chapter 4 details how much time children spend in different types of child care, including school.

f. Different kinds of families

Different family characteristics can affect child care use patterns in different ways. However, this report deals with families without reference to family structure. A separate report will discuss child care arrangements of one- and two-parent families (Brockman, Lero, Goelman, Pence & Abraham, in preparation).

g. National and provincial perspectives

The CNCCS was designed to give accurate information on national and provincial day care use. This report focuses mostly on the weighted Canadian sample. However, provincial tabulations appear in Appendices A to J. Reports on child care history and regulation in each province are being developed.

1.4 The organization of this report

Chapter 2 describes the survey methodology and procedures, including sample selection, the interview procedure and the Child Care Interview Schedule. As well, it gives a brief overview of family structure and parental work patterns in Canada.

Chapter 3 focuses on:

- the **NUMBER OF CHILDREN** in parental, non-parental, and paid child care;
- the **NUMBER OF CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS** families use;
- the **AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS** children spend in parental, non-parental, and paid child care.

Chapter 4 examines the types of child care during the reference week. This information is unique to this study and includes:

- the **NUMBER OF CHILDREN** in different types of child care;
- the **AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS** children spend in different types of care;
- the **RANGE AND DISTRIBUTION OF HOURS** children spend in different arrangements.

Chapter 5 covers the number of children in 15 types of formal and informal child care and the average amount of time children spent in each.

This report refers only to the national sample. The appendices provide provincial data for all the tables.

1.5 The context of this report

No report can capture all the detail or complexity of child care use. This report provides the context for subsequent in-depth analyses of child care. Subsequent reports will address the following topics:

- a. the relationship between child care use and parental work patterns;
 - b. the affordability and availability of child care;
 - c. parental preferences for and satisfaction with different types of child care;
 - d. child care use for children of different ages;
 - e. types of formal and informal child care;
 - f. how one- and two-parent families use child care.
-

Chapter 2

THE SAMPLE

This chapter briefly explains some of the methodology used in the CNCCS. For more detailed information on the methodology, consult the **Canadian National Child Care Study: Introductory Report** (Lero, Pence, Shields, Brockman & Goelman, 1992). For more information on Statistics Canada's procedures for collecting information for the Labour Force Survey (LFS), see **Methodology of the Canadian Labour Force Survey, 1989-90** (Statistics Canada, 1990).

The CNCCS targeted two populations: Canadian children under age 13, and "economic families" in Canada with at least one child under 13. (An "economic family" includes people living in the same dwelling all related by blood, marriage or adoption). The Fraser family is such a family; and it would include Maddy's mother if she moved into the Fraser household.

The CNCCS was conducted as part of Statistics Canada's monthly Labour Force Survey; as such, certain groups are not covered:

- children and families living in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories;
- children residing permanently in institutions;
- children and families living on Indian reserves; and
- Canadian children and families living outside Canada in September 1988.

Despite these exclusions (see Table 1), the CNCCS represented 97.9% of all Canadian children under age 13.

Table 1 **Distribution of Canadian Children Under Age 13, 1988**

	Total	Percent
Represented by National Child Care Survey Sample	4,658,500	97.9
Children Living in the Yukon or Northwest Territories	20,300	0.4
Residents of Institutions	2,500	0.1
Children Living on Indian Reserves	72,900	1.5
Children Living Outside of Canada	6,000	0.1
Total Canadian Children	4,760,100	100.0

Numbers refer to weighted population estimates and were supplied by Statistics Canada.

The survey interviewed 24,155 households and covered a total of 42,131 children. Using standardized Statistics Canada procedures, this sample was considered a reliable population estimate of 2,724,300 families and 4,658,500 children under age 13. Throughout this report, the survey results have been extrapolated to represent the general Canadian population. Table 2 shows the number of children under 13 about whom child care information was collected. Table 3 shows the number of families interviewed in each province.

Non-responses occurred under two conditions. Some households failed to respond; thus, interviewers could not determine if these households contained at least one child under age 13. This occurred in 5% of the households in the sample (yielding a household response rate of 95%). In addition, in some households containing an economic family with a child under 13, the interviewee might decline to complete the lengthy child care interview. Complete interviews were conducted for 84.3% of the selected families.

Table 2 **Distribution of Children in the Survey, by Age, Canada, 1988**

Age	Number	Percent	Cumulative Percent
0-17 months	559,000	12.0	12.0
18-35 months	531,900	11.4	23.4
3-5 years	1,073,900	23.1	46.5
6-9 years	1,436,800	30.8	77.3
10-12 years	1,056,900	22.7	100.0
Total	4,658,500	100.0	

Table 3 **Distribution of Survey Samples and Populations, Canada and the Provinces, 1988**

Province	Sample Families	Sample Children	Population of Families Represented	Population of Children Represented
Newfoundland	2,102	3,501	70,400	116,600
Prince Edward Island	780	1,404	14,000	25,500
Nova Scotia	1,746	2,978	93,000	157,500
New Brunswick	1,968	3,306	79,300	132,000
Quebec	3,793	6,252	707,700	1,157,800
Ontario	4,591	7,930	978,800	1,661,200
Manitoba	1,579	2,830	110,300	193,600
Saskatchewan	2,213	4,151	109,000	203,700
Alberta	3,108	5,679	268,800	492,500
British Columbia	2,275	4,100	293,000	518,000
Canada	24,155	42,131	2,724,300	4,658,500

No data were collected in the Yukon or Northwest Territories.

2.1 Families and children

The Fraser family is somewhat atypical of Canadian families today. Comprising two adults, two children and one on the way, the Fraser family is slightly larger than average. Today, most Canadian families have only one or two children (Ram, 1990). In 1988, 46.3% of Canadian families (1,261,000) had only one child under 13, 39.8% (1,085,500) had two children under 13. Only 13.9% (377,800) had three or more children under 13, and 2.7% (74,100) had four or more children under 13.

Of the families surveyed, 35.8% (975,200) had one child or more under age 3; 58.2% (1,586,700) had at least one preschool-age child (0 to 5 years old); and 18.8% (512,500) had two or more children under age 6 (see Table 4). Of the families surveyed, 41.8% contained only children aged 6 or older, while 17.0% had children aged only from 10 to 12.

Table 4 Families With Children in Selected Age Groups, Canada, 1988

	Number of Families	Percent of All CNCCS Families ¹
Families with no children < 3	1,749,000	64.2
Families with children < 3	975,200	35.8
with 1 child < 3	862,300	31.7
with 2 or more children < 3	112,900	4.1
Families with no children < 6	1,137,600	41.8
Families with children < 6	1,586,700	58.2
with 1 child < 6	1,074,200	39.4
with 2 or more children < 6	512,500	18.8
Families with no children < 10	464,600	17.0
Families with children < 10	2,259,700	82.9
with 1 child < 10	1,190,300	43.7
with 2 children < 10	838,900	30.8
with 3 or more children < 10	230,500	8.5
Families with 1 child < 13	1,261,000	46.3
Families with 2 children < 13	1,085,500	39.8
Families with 3 or more children < 13	377,800	13.9
Total CNCCS Families	2,724,300	100.0

¹ CNCCS families, by definition, include at least one child < 13 years of age.

Family structure has changed markedly during the last 30 years. Children today live in a variety of family types, including one- and two-parent families, blended families, extended families, families with common-law partners, and families with joint custody arrangements. This diversity means many children have complex family relationships that challenge the study of family life and child care.

Overall, 87.4% of the children were in two-parent families and 12.6% were in one-parent families (Tables 5 and 6). The CNCCS defines a one-parent family as a family including a child (or children) under 13 in which the IP does not live with a spouse or partner. Almost 92% of the one-parent families (367,000) were headed by women, while about 8% (32,600) were headed by men. Female-headed, one-parent families accounted for 13.5% of all families surveyed and male-headed, one-parent families accounted for 1.2%.

Table 5 Children Under Age 13 in One- and Two-parent Families, Canada and the Provinces, 1988

Province	Children in Two-parent Families ¹		Children in One-parent Families ²		All Children
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Newfoundland	103,400	88.6	13,300	11.4	116,700
Prince Edward Island	22,600	88.5	2,900	11.5	25,500
Nova Scotia	139,700	88.6	17,900	11.4	157,500
New Brunswick	116,400	88.2	15,600	11.8	132,000
Quebec	1,009,600	87.2	148,200	12.8	1,157,800
Ontario	1,465,000	88.2	196,200	11.8	1,661,200
Manitoba	164,900	85.2	28,700	14.8	193,600
Saskatchewan	179,100	87.9	24,600	12.1	203,700
Alberta	428,300	87.0	64,200	13.0	492,500
British Columbia	442,600	85.4	75,400	14.6	518,000
Canada	4,071,600	87.4	586,900	12.6	4,658,500

¹ Two-parent families consist of an IP and spouse or partner who live together with at least one child under 13.

² One-parent families consist of an IP who does not live with a spouse or partner and has at least one child under 13.

Table 6 Children Under 13 in One- and Two-parent Families, by Age, Canada, 1988

Age	Children in Two-parent Families		Children in One-parent Families		All Children
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
0-17 months	509,500	91.1	49,600	8.9	559,000
18-35 months	476,600	89.6	55,300	10.4	531,900
3-5 years	939,900	87.5	133,900	12.5	1,073,900
6-9 years	1,238,700	86.2	198,100	13.8	1,436,800
10-12 years	906,900	85.8	150,000	14.2	1,056,900
All Children	4,071,600	87.4	586,900	12.6	4,658,500

Parental employment status is reported in Tables 7 to 12. The largest proportion of parents in two-parent families, and the single parents in one-parent families, worked or studied full time. This was the pattern for 43.1% (1,174,800) of all families with a child under 13. In 17.8% of families, one parent worked or studied on a part-time basis while the spouse/partner worked or studied full or part time; or lone parents worked and/or studied part time. In 39% (1,063,000) of families with at least one child under 13, one parent, who was neither employed nor a student, stayed at home.

For 95.5% of the children in the sample, their child care arrangements during the reference week were considered "typical" (Table 13).

Table 7 **Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, All Children, Canada, 1988**

	Interviewed Parent		Spouse/ Partner	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parental Employment Status				
Employed full time	1,841,300	39.5	3,747,400	92.0
Employed part time	839,000	18.0	50,300	1.2
Unemployed	265,200	5.7	124,300	3.1
Not in the labour force	1,713,100	36.8	149,700	3.7
Parental Student Status				
Enrolled as a full-time student	95,800	2.1	41,500	1.0
Enrolled as a part-time student	188,300	4.0	89,500	2.2
Not enrolled as a student	4,374,300	93.9	3,937,600	96.7
Parental Combined Work and Study Status				
Full-time work and full-time student	...	...	7,000 ^q	0.2 ^q
Full-time work and part-time student	81,500	1.7	85,000	2.1
Part-time work and full-time student	9,600 ^q	0.2	...	...
Part-time work and part-time student	32,400	0.7	...	...
Full-time work and not a student	1,756,900	37.7	3,655,400	89.8
Part-time work and not a student	797,000	17.1	43,400	1.1
Not employed and full-time student	83,400	1.8	28,900	0.7
Not employed and part-time student	74,400	1.6	...	...
Not employed and not a student	1,820,500	39.1	241,900	5.9
Total Number of Children	4,658,500	100.0	4,071,600	100.0

Includes parents who are unemployed and those not in the labour force.

Table 8 **Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 0 to 17 Months, Canada, 1988**

	Interviewed Parent		Spouse/ Partner	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parental Employment Status				
Employed full time	195,000	34.9	462,800	90.8
Employed part time	81,500	14.6	9,100 ^q	1.8 ^q
Unemployed	37,000	6.6	20,800	4.1
Not in the labour force	245,500	43.9	16,800	3.3
Parental Student Status				
Enrolled as a full-time student	8,900 ^q	1.6 ^q	6,600 ^q	1.3 ^q
Enrolled as a part-time student	15,400	2.8	11,500 ^q	2.3 ^q
Not enrolled as a student	534,800	95.7	491,400	96.5
Parental Combined Work and Study Status				
Full-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Full-time work and part-time student	...	...	10,500 ^q	2.1 ^q
Part-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Part-time work and part-time student	...	...	...	...
Full-time work and not a student	189,900	34.0	450,900	88.5
Part-time work and not a student	78,000	14.0	7,500 ^q	1.5 ^q
Not employed and full-time student	7,900 ^q	1.4 ^q	...	...
Not employed and part-time student	7,700 ^q	1.4 ^q	...	...
Not employed and not a student	266,800	47.7	33,000	6.5
Total Number of Children	559,000	100.0	509,500	100.0

Includes parents who are unemployed and those not in the labour force.

Table 9 Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 18 to 35 Months, Canada, 1988

	Interviewed Parent		Spouse/ Partner	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parental Employment Status				
Employed full time	186,000	35.0	435,100	91.3
Employed part time	90,500	17.0	...	...
Unemployed	28,500	5.4	16,900	3.6
Not in the labour force	227,000	42.7	20,000	4.2
Parental Student Status				
Enrolled as a full-time student	11,400 ^a	2.2 ^a	6,200 ^a	1.3 ^a
Enrolled as a part-time student	21,700	4.1	11,200 ^a	2.3 ^a
Not enrolled as a student	498,800	93.8	459,200	96.3
Parental Combined Work and Study Status				
Full-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Full-time work and part-time student	7,400 ^a	1.4 ^a	10,100 ^a	2.1 ^a
Part-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Part-time work and part-time student	...	...	...	...
Full-time work and not a student	178,500	33.6	424,700	89.1
Part-time work and not a student	85,600	16.1	...	...
Not employed and full-time student	10,300 ^a	1.9 ^a	...	...
Not employed and part-time student	10,500 ^a	2.0 ^a	...	...
Not employed and not a student	234,600	44.1	30,600	6.4
Total Number of Children	531,900	100.0	476,600	100.0

Includes parents who are unemployed and those not in the labour force.

Table 10 Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 3 to 5 Years, Canada, 1988

	Interviewed Parent		Spouse/ Partner	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parental Employment Status				
Employed full time	388,200	36.2	862,900	91.8
Employed part time	196,900	18.3	13,600	1.4
Unemployed	58,800	5.5	29,600	3.1
Not in the labour force	430,000	40.0	33,900	3.6
Parental Student Status				
Enrolled as a full-time student	20,100	1.9	9,900 ^a	1.1
Enrolled as a part-time student	44,500	4.1	21,200	2.3
Not enrolled as a student	1,009,300	94.0	908,800	96.7
Parental Combined Work and Study Status				
Full-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Full-time work and part-time student	15,700	1.5	20,300	2.2
Part-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Part-time work and part-time student	10,000 ^a	0.9 ^a	...	...
Full-time work and not a student	371,800	34.6	841,500	89.5
Part-time work and not a student	184,600	17.2	11,700 ^a	1.2 ^a
Not employed and full-time student	17,100	1.6	7,300 ^a	0.8 ^a
Not employed and part-time student	18,700	1.7	...	...
Not employed and not a student	453,000	42.2	55,600	5.9
Total Number of Children	1,073,900	100.0	939,900	100.0

Includes parents who are unemployed and those not in the labour force.

Canadian National Child Care Study

Where Are The Children? An Overview of Child Care Arrangements in Canada

Table 11 **Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 6 to 9 Years, Canada, 1988**

	Interviewed Parent		Spouse/ Partner	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parental Employment Status				
Employed full time	586,300	40.8	1,152,800	93.1
Employed part time	275,100	19.1	12,200	1.0
Unemployed	83,800	5.8	31,700	2.6
Not in the labour force	491,700	34.2	42,100	3.4
Parental Student Status				
Enrolled as a full-time student	35,200	2.5	12,100	1.0
Enrolled as a part-time student	60,700	4.2	30,100	2.4
Not enrolled as a student	1,340,800	93.3	1,196,500	96.6
Parental Combined Work and Study Status				
Full-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Full-time work and part-time student	27,600	1.9	29,500	2.4
Part-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Part-time work and part-time student	9,700 ^q	0.7 ^q	...	...
Full-time work and not a student	557,400	38.8	1,120,100	90.4
Part-time work and not a student	261,800	18.2	10,700 ^q	1.2 ^q
Not employed and full-time student	30,300	2.1	7,600 ^q	0.9 ^q
Not employed and part-time student	23,500	1.6	...	...
Not employed and not a student	521,600	36.3	65,800	5.3
Total Number of Children	1,436,800	100.0	1,238,700	100.0

Includes parents who are unemployed and those not in the labour force.

Table 12 **Number of Children, by Employment and Educational Status of the Interviewed Parent and Spouse/Partner, 10 to 12 Years, Canada, 1988**

	Interviewed Parent		Spouse/ Partner	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parental Employment Status				
Employed full time	485,700	46.0	833,800	91.9
Employed part time	194,900	18.4	10,800 ^q	1.2 ^q
Unemployed	57,200	5.4	25,300	2.8
Not in the labour force	319,000	30.2	37,000	4.1
Parental Student Status				
Enrolled as a full-time student	20,200	1.9	6,600 ^q	0.7 ^q
Enrolled as a part-time student	46,000	4.4	15,500	1.7
Not enrolled as a student	990,600	93.7	884,800	97.6
Parental Combined Work and Study Status				
Full-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Full-time work and part-time student	25,900	2.5	14,700	1.6
Part-time work and full-time student	...	...	...	...
Part-time work and part-time student	6,100 ^q	0.6 ^q	...	...
Full-time work and not a student	459,300	43.5	818,100	90.2
Part-time work and not a student	186,900	17.7	9,700 ^q	1.1 ^q
Not employed and full-time student	17,800	1.7	...	...
Not employed and part-time student	14,000	1.3	...	...
Not employed and not a student	344,400	32.6	56,900	6.3
Total Number of Children	1,056,900	100.0	906,900	100.0

Includes parents who are unemployed and those not in the labour force.

Table 13 Unusual Circumstances Regarding Child Care During the Reference Week, Canada, 1988

Age	Nothing Unusual		Something Unusual		All Children
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
0-17 months	537,200	96.1	21,800	3.9	559,000
18-35 months	508,900	95.7	23,000	4.3	531,900
3-5 years	1,022,600	95.2	51,300	4.8	1,073,900
6-9 years	1,368,300	95.2	68,500	4.8	1,436,800
10-12 years	1,014,000	95.9	42,800	4.1	1,056,900
Total	4,451,000	95.5	207,400	4.5	4,658,500

2.2 The Interviewed Parent (IP) and the child care interview

The CNCCS collected a wide range of information on each family and each child. A detailed interview was conducted with the parent in each family who described him/herself as most responsible for child care arrangements. In the fictitious Fraser family, the mother, Maddy, would have been interviewed. In 94.9% of the families surveyed, the IP was the mother (Table 14).

Table 14 Relationship of the Interviewed Parent (IP)¹ to Children Under Age 13 in the Economic Family, Canada, 1988

	Number	Percent of Sample
Mother ² of 1 or more children in two-parent family	2,225,200	81.7
Mother ² of 1 or more children in one-parent family	360,600	13.2
Father ² of 1 or more children in two-parent family	90,300	3.3
Father ² of 1 or more children in one-parent family	32,200	1.2
Other relative	16,000	0.6
All Interviewed Parents	2,724,300	100.0

¹ The Interviewed Parent is referred to as the "Designated Adult" (DA) on the NCCS questionnaire and in the NCCS Microdata User's Guide.

² Includes natural, foster and step-parent.

The CNCCS collected information on the parents' work/study schedules, the number and ages of the children and whether any of the children had a disability. The IP was asked to describe the child care arrangements used during the reference week for each child under age 13. The IP was asked about: the licensing or regulatory status of the care arrangements; the days on which care was provided; the hours the arrangement was used; the cost of the arrangement; and if it was subsidized; or if receipts were given; and what the IP did while care was being provided.

Based on Statistics Canada procedures, one "target child" was identified in each family. For this child, the IP provided detailed information on the child's main method of care used while the IP worked or studied. Findings on the "main method" of child care are reported in **Where Are The Children? An Analysis of Child Care Arrangements Used While Parents Work or Study** (Goelman, Pence, Lero & Brockman, in preparation).

The rest of the interview dealt with parental work or study schedules in the preceding 12 months, the stress that parents felt in meeting both work and family responsibilities and the demographic, ethnic and linguistic characteristics of the families.



Chapter 3

PARENTAL, NON-PARENTAL, AND PAID CHILD CARE

This chapter presents information supplied by the IPs on the child care arrangements they made for their children during the reference week. Figure 1 presents the three child care groupings studied in this chapter. All 4,658,500 children in Canada under 13 are represented within each grouping under one of two categories.

3.1 There are six categories of child care

The **first grouping** divides children into the **following** two categories:

- A. those who were cared for exclusively by the IP at home during the reference week
- B. those who were in at least one supplemental child care arrangement for at least one hour during the reference week.

In Category A are children whose only caregiver during the reference week was the IP. (These IPs did not work at home.) In Category B, the term “supplemental child care” refers to child care which supplements the care children receive at home from the IP. An infant, for example, may have the IP as the primary caregiver, but this care may be supplemented by a paid, unrelated baby sitter while the IP works, attends a fitness class or performs community or volunteer work. In such a case, the baby sitter is considered to be supplemental child care.

The **second grouping** divides children into **these** two categories:

- C. those who were cared for exclusively by a parent, either at home or at work
- D. those who were in the care of a non-parent for at least one hour during the reference week.

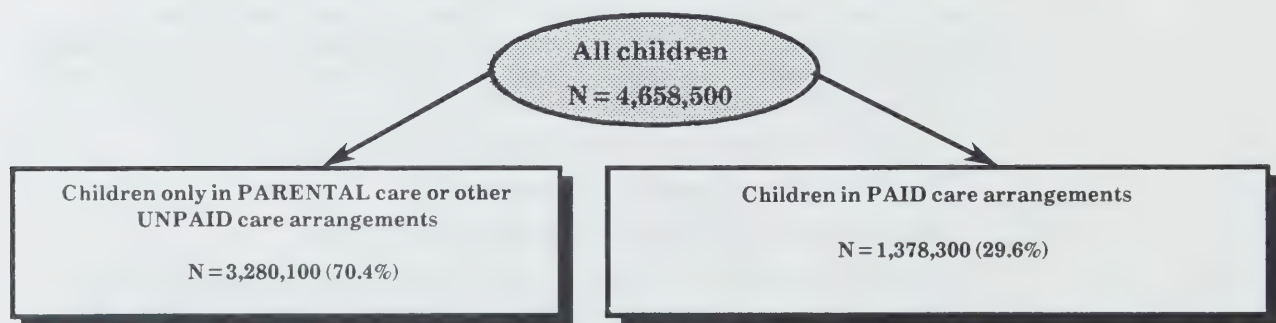
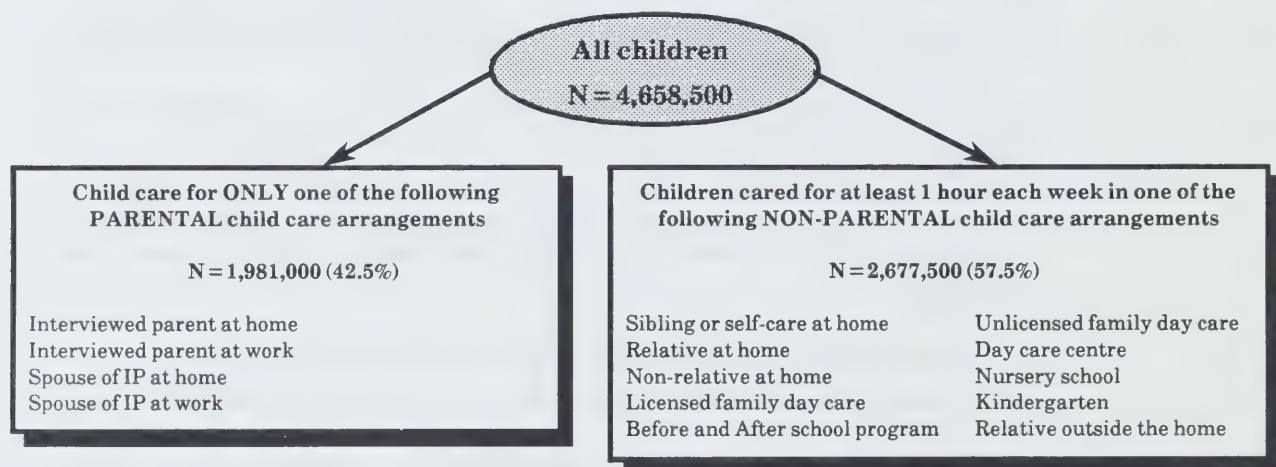
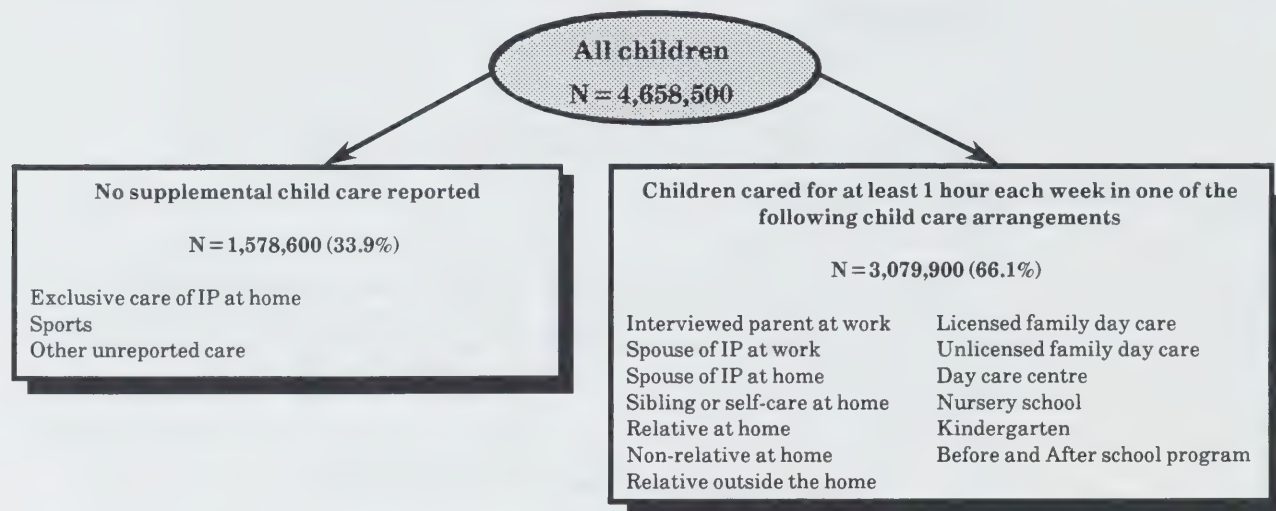
Category C includes children who were looked after by their parents in the family’s grocery store; mildly ill school-aged children who accompanied their parents to work; and children in the care of a parent who worked at home. Category D includes children who were cared for by a grandparent for a few hours after school; children who play at the home of a non-related neighbour until their parents return home; and children in a nursery school or a day care centre.

The **third grouping** divides children into **these** two categories:

- E. those who spent no time in paid child care
- F. those who spent at least one hour in paid child care.

Category E includes non-paid child care, such as the Tuesday afternoons Sam plays at his aunt’s house after school. Category F includes children who were in one or more paid child care arrangement. This would include Katie’s nursery school, family day care and the occasional baby sitter.

Figure 1 CNCCS Child Care Arrangements



For each of these six categories information is presented on:

- the number of children in each category;
- the number of different child care arrangements which parents use; and
- the number of children who were accommodated used one, two, three or more child care arrangements during the reference week.

The data presented cover all children under 13 and are divided into five age groupings: infants (0 to 17 months); toddlers (18 to 35 months); preschoolers (3 to 5 years); young school-age children (6 to 9 years); and older school-age children (10 to 12 years).

3.2 Parents at work and children in school

The CNCCS was based on two major assumptions: (a) that child care is used for a variety of purposes and (b) that child care refers to many kinds of arrangements. This chapter does not limit the discussion to child care used while parents are working or studying². Instead it aims to provide a broad discussion of child care use in Canada: the kinds of care used, the number of children who use care, and the average number of hours care is used in a typical week. The preceding refer to all child care used for all children under 13.

Accounting for the hours that 6 to 12 year-old children spend in school is a difficult issue in describing child care use for children under 13. Although this chapter does not attempt to address the problem, Chapter 4 does. Indeed, Chapter 4 provides a detailed portrait of child care used by school-aged children before, during and after school, including the numbers of children who participate in different types of child care, and for how much time, during the reference week. The present chapter, on the other hand, presents a "broad stroke" description of child care use.

3.3 Children in supplemental child care

Nearly two-thirds (66.1%) of the children covered by the CNCCS spent at least one hour in the types of child care listed in Figure 1. The rest had no supplemental care or were in the exclusive care of the IP.

Table 15 **Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in at Least One Supplemental Child Care Arrangement, by Age, Canada, 1988**

Age	Total	Number of Children in at Least One Supplemental Arrangement	Percentage of Children in at Least One Supplemental Arrangement	Average Hours in Care for Users of Supplemental Arrangements
0-17 months	559,000	340,100	60.8	26.0
18-35 months	531,900	375,300	70.6	29.7
3-5 years	1,073,900	899,900	83.8	28.1
6-9 years	1,436,800	846,700	58.9	15.4
10-12 years	1,056,900	617,900	58.5	14.7
Total	4,658,500	3,079,900	66.1	21.9

Table 16 Number of Children in Zero, One, Two, and Three or More Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988

Age		Total	No Supplemental Arrangements	All Arrangements		
				One Arrangement	Two Arrangements	Three or More Arrangements
0-17 months	No.	559,000	218,900	227,000	89,400	23,700
	%	100.0	39.2	40.6	16.0	4.2
18-35 months	No.	531,900	156,600	223,200	108,800	43,300
	%	100.0	29.4	42.0	20.5	8.1
3-5 years	No.	1,073,900	173,900	419,500	293,700	186,700
	%	100.0	16.2	39.1	27.3	17.4
6-9 years	No.	1,436,800	590,100	515,900	252,700	78,200
	%	100.0	41.1	35.9	17.6	5.4
10-12 years	No.	1,056,900	439,000	384,400	182,800	50,700
	%	100.0	41.5	36.4	17.3	4.8
Total	No.	4,658,500	1,578,600	1,769,900	927,400	382,600
	%	100.0	33.9	38.0	19.9	8.2

Note: Each cell has two entries. The first is the number of children of a particular age having the specified number of arrangements; the second is the percentage of children of a particular age having the specified number of arrangements.

These results were consistent for each of the five age groups. Infants are often associated with exclusive parental (maternal) care, but the CNCCS found that only 39.2% of infants were in the exclusive care of the IP. The remaining 60.8% spent at least one hour in supplemental child care during the reference week. One in five infants were in two or more types of child care (Table 16). Infants spent an average of 26.0 hours in supplemental child care during the reference week. Of those infants covered by the CNCCS, 40.6% were in one supplemental child care arrangement, 16.0% were in two and 4.2% were in three or more arrangements.

Of toddlers (18 to 35 months), 70.6% were in supplemental care for an average of 29.7 hours during the reference week. The percentage of children who were in two arrangements was 20.5% for toddlers, compared with 16.0% for infants. The percentage of children in three or more arrangements was 8.1% for toddlers, compared with 4.2% for infants.

Of the 3 to 5 year olds, 83.8% were in supplemental care. Proportionately more 3 to 5 year olds were in two supplemental child care arrangements (27.3%) or three or more (17.4%) than children in any other age group (Table 16).

The large percentage of 3 to 5 year-olds in multiple care arrangements may be attributed to a number of factors. As noted in the **Status of Day Care in Canada** reports, there are proportionately more spaces in licensed facilities for children in this age group than for any other age group. Part-day nursery school programs are largely designed for children in this age group. Many 5 year-olds are in kindergarten programs, most of which are only a half-day in length, leading parents who work or study full time to arrange additional care for the balance of the day.

As noted earlier, day care reported for school-aged children (6 to 9 year-olds and 10 to 12 year-olds) does not include school attendance. Of 6 to 9 year-olds, 58.9% were in supplemental child care for an average of 15.4 hours during the reference week, and 58.5% of 10 to 12 year-olds spent an average of 14.7 hours in such care (Table 16). Of 6 to 9 year-olds, 35.9% were in one arrangement, 17.6% were in two arrangements and 5.4% were in three or more supplemental child care arrangements. Similarly, 36.4% of 10 to 12 year-olds were in one arrangement, 17.3% were in two arrangements and 4.8% were in three or more. These data show that supplemental child care, in addition to care provided by the IP, is the norm for most Canadian children under age 13.

3.4 Children in exclusive parental child care and children in non-parental child care

There are at least four kinds of parental child care: care by the IP at home; care by the IP at work; care by the spouse at home; and care by the spouse at work.

During the reference week, 42.5% (1,981,000) of children under 13 were cared for only by their parents. The remaining 57.5% (2,677,500) were in at least one non-parental child care arrangement during the reference week in addition to parental child care.

Table 17 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988

Age	Total Number	Number of Children With at Least One Non-parental Arrangement	Percentage of Children With at Least One Non-parental Arrangement	Average Total Hours Spent in Non-parental Arrangements
0-17 months	559,000	307,300	55.0	22.0
18-35 months	531,900	337,700	63.5	25.4
3-5 years	1,073,900	853,100	79.4	23.9
6-9 years	1,436,800	690,900	48.1	11.7
10-12 years	1,056,900	488,500	46.2	10.6
Total	4,658,500	2,677,500	57.5	18.3

Of the infants covered by the CNCCS, 55.0% were in some form of non-parental care during the reference week (Table 17). These children spent an average of 22.0 hours in these settings during the week. The largest proportion of infants (46.5%) were in only one non-parental care arrangement and 8.5% were in two or more (Table 18).

Toddlers (18 to 35 months) were in non-parental child care arrangements for more hours on average than infants. Of toddlers, 63.5% were in non-parental child care. They spent an average of 25.4 hours in such care during the reference week (Table 17). Of this group, 48.7% were in one non-parental care arrangement, 12.0% were in two and 2.7% were in three or more (Table 18).

Table 18 Number of Children in Zero, One, Two, and Three or More Non-parental Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988

Age		Total	Exclusive Parental Arrangements	Non-parental Arrangements		
				One Arrangement	Two Arrangements	Three or More Arrangements
0-17 months	No. %	559,000 100.0	251,700 45.0	259,800 46.5	40,800 7.3	6,700 ^a 1.2 ^a
18-35 months	No. %	531,900 100.0	194,200 36.5	259,100 48.7	64,100 12.0	14,500 2.7
3-5 years	No. %	1,073,900 100.0	220,800 20.6	488,000 45.4	289,500 27.0	75,600 7.1
6-9 years	No. %	1,436,800 100.0	745,900 51.9	550,500 38.3	118,300 8.2	22,100 1.6
10-12 years	No. %	1,056,900 100.0	568,300 53.8	394,100 37.3	82,700 7.8	11,700 ^a 1.1 ^a
Total	No. %	4,658,500 100.0	1,981,000 42.5	1,951,500 41.9	595,300 12.8	130,700 2.8

Note: Each cell has two entries. The first is the number of children of a particular age having the specified number of arrangements; the second is the percentage of children of a particular age having the specified number of arrangements.

A larger share of preschoolers (3 to 5 year-olds) were in supplemental care than were toddlers. Of preschoolers, 79.4% were in supplemental child care spending an average of 23.9 hours in such care during the reference week (Table 17). Of 3 to 5 year-olds, 45.4% were in one supplemental care arrangement, 27.0% were in two and 7.1% were in three or more (Table 18).

Of 6 to 9 year-olds, 48.1% were in non-parental care compared with 46.2% of 10 to 12 year olds. 6 to 9 year-olds spent an average of 11.7 hours in such care during the reference week, compared with 10.6 hours for 10 to 12 year-olds. Of the 6 to 9 year-olds, 38.3% were in one non-parental arrangement, and 9.8% were in two or more. Of the 10 to 12 year-olds, 37.3% were in one arrangement, and 8.9% were in two or more.

Overall, 57.5% of Canadian children under 13 used supplemental child care during the reference week. Such care was used by 55.0% of Canadian infants. Of 10 to 12 year-olds, 46.2% used some type of non-parental care arrangement other than school.

3.5 Paid and unpaid child care

Data on children in paid non-parental child care are presented in Tables 19 and 20. The cost of non-parental child care can be difficult to calculate and is beyond the scope of this report. Costs vary depending on factors including the child's age, the number of children in the family, the type of care used and the extent to which child care is subsidized. Further, care by family members may be paid in money, exchanged for rent or nominal housekeeping or may be part of a "social contract" among family members.

Children in paid child care are those for whom parents paid at least one dollar for at least one hour of child care during the reference week.

Table 19 **Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988**

Age	Total Number	Number of Children in at Least One Paid Arrangement	Percentage of Children in at Least One Paid Arrangement	Average Hours Spent by Children in Paid Arrangements
0-17 months	559,000	178,400	31.9	26.0
18-35 months	531,900	237,000	44.6	27.4
3-5 years	1,073,900	513,900	47.9	22.5
6-9 years	1,436,800	352,600	24.5	11.7
10-12 years	1,056,900	96,400	9.1	11.8
Total	4,658,500	1,378,300	29.6	20.3

Table 20 **Number of Children in Zero, One, Two, and Three or More Paid Child Care Arrangements, by Age, Canada, 1988**

Age		Total	Parental and Other Unpaid Arrangements	Paid Arrangements		
				One Arrangement	Two Arrangements	Three or More Arrangements
0-17 months	No. %	559,000 100.0	380,600 68.1	166,500 29.8	11,300 ^a 2.0 ^a	...
18-35 months	No. %	531,900 100.0	294,900 55.4	202,300 38.0	31,500 5.9	...
3-5 years	No. %	1,073,900 100.0	560,000 52.1	419,500 39.1	84,500 7.9	9,900 ^a 1.0 ^a
6-9 years	No. %	1,436,800 100.0	1,084,200 75.5	315,400 22.0	34,500 2.4	...
10-12 years	No. %	1,056,900 100.0	960,400 90.9	86,700 8.2	9,200 ^a 0.9 ^a	...
Total	No. %	4,658,500 100.0	3,280,100 70.4	1,190,500 25.6	171,000 3.7	16,900 0.3

Note: Each cell has two entries. The first is the number of children of a particular age having the specified number of arrangements; the second is the percentage of children of a particular age having the specified number of arrangements.

Of children under 13, 29.6% were in some form of paid child care for an average of 20.3 hours during the reference week (Table 19). Of infants, 31.9% were in some form of paid child care for an average of 26.0 hours. The proportion rose to 44.6% for toddlers in care, an average of 27.4 hours, and peaked at 47.9% for preschoolers in care an average of 22.5 hours. The proportions were less for 6 to 9 year-olds (24.5%) and for 10 to 12 year-olds (9.1%). The preceding data show that the average number of hours children spend in supplemental non-parental and paid child care is relatively consistent.

3.6 Summary

Child care (or lack of child care) in one form or another affects most Canadian children. This chapter provides context for the detailed analyses presented in subsequent chapters and examines a wide range of formal and informal, in-home and out-of-home, familial and non-familial child care arrangements provided on a paid and an unpaid basis. Subsequent chapters examine in greater detail the time children spend in these arrangements.



Chapter 4

HOW MANY CHILDREN IN WHAT KINDS OF CHILD CARE AND FOR HOW MANY HOURS?

Chapter 3 examined broad categories of child care: supplemental child care, non-parental child care and paid child care. This chapter focuses on the number of children cared for in different kinds of child care settings and the amount of time children spent in them during the reference week.

The IP was asked the number of hours that each child in the family spent in each type of child care. The IP was also asked for other information including:

- which days of the week the child attends day care;
- how many hours the child attends;
- who sponsors the child care arrangement;
- if it is a licensed or regulated setting;
- how much the parents paid for child care;
- if income tax receipts are provided by the caregiver;
- how satisfied the parents are with this arrangement;
- if other children in the family also attend;
- what the IP's main activity is (e.g., work, study, etc.) while the child is in care.

The CNCCS recorded the hours that school-aged children spent in school. As well, it reported on the types of child care these children used when they were not in school. The data collected include the number of hours children spent in care by the IP at work; in care by the spouse at work; and in care by an immediate family member (i.e., spouse, sibling or self-care) at home³. The number of hours children spent in the exclusive care of the IP at home was not reported.

For each age group, and for each type of child care, the following information was collected:

- a. the **PERCENTAGE** of children in care during the reference week;
- b. the **NUMBER** of children in care during the reference week;
- c. the **AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS** those children spent in care during the reference week;
- d. the **DISTRIBUTION OF HOURS** for those children in care during the reference week.

Because averages have serious limitations in contributing to our understanding of child care use patterns, it was important in our analyses to go beyond averages and to report the range and distribution of hours in care. Consider the following example in which two types of care may have similar averages, but actually be used very differently. Examining the hypothetical attendance of five children in a nursery school and another five in a family day care shows how similar averages can mask differences in use:

Nursery School		Family Day Care	
Child	Hours Attended	Child	Hours Attended
Katie	15	Eric	2
Morgan	15	Leah	8
Tara	15	Susan	11
Zack	15	Vicki	22
Jamil	15	Eliot	32
Average	15	Average	15

In this example, both arrangements are used for an **average** of 15 hours. However, all the children in the nursery school attend for **the same 15 hours** that the program is in session during the week, whereas the children in the family day care spend **as little as two hours to as many as 32 hours**. To overcome the limitations of averages, this chapter presents the distribution of hours which children spent in different types of care.

4.1 Child care used for children aged 0 to 17 months

Table 21 and Figure 2 show the **numbers of infants** and their **average hours in care**. The child care method used by the largest proportion of infants (17.7%) was care by a relative not in the child's home (e.g., care in a grandparent's home) for an average of 16.9 hours, followed by care by an unlicensed family day care provider, 15.9% (unlicensed care by a non-relative, not in the child's home) for 25.4 hours. Next, 12.3% of Canadian infants spent an average of 16.0 hours in the care of a relative (e.g., a grandmother, an aunt, an uncle, a cousin) in the child's home during the reference week (Table 21).

Table 21 Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 0 to 17 Months, Canada, 1988

	Percentage of Children in Care Arrangement	Number of Children in Care Arrangement	Average Hours of Care for Children in Care Arrangement
IP at work	5.5	30,800	18.6
Spouse at work	...	...	...
Family not at work	15.3	85,400	17.1
Relative at home	12.3	69,000	16.0
Relative not at home	17.7	99,200	16.9
Non-relative at home	10.3	57,300	16.2
Licensed family day care	...	...	...
Unlicensed family day care	15.9	88,800	25.4
Day care centre	3.2	17,600	30.9
Nursery programs	...	...	...
Kindergarten	...	...	...
Before and after school	...	...	...
School	...	...	...
All Care Types	60.8	340,100	26.0

There are 559,000 children in this age category. Since children participate in more than one care arrangement the rows and columns are not additive.

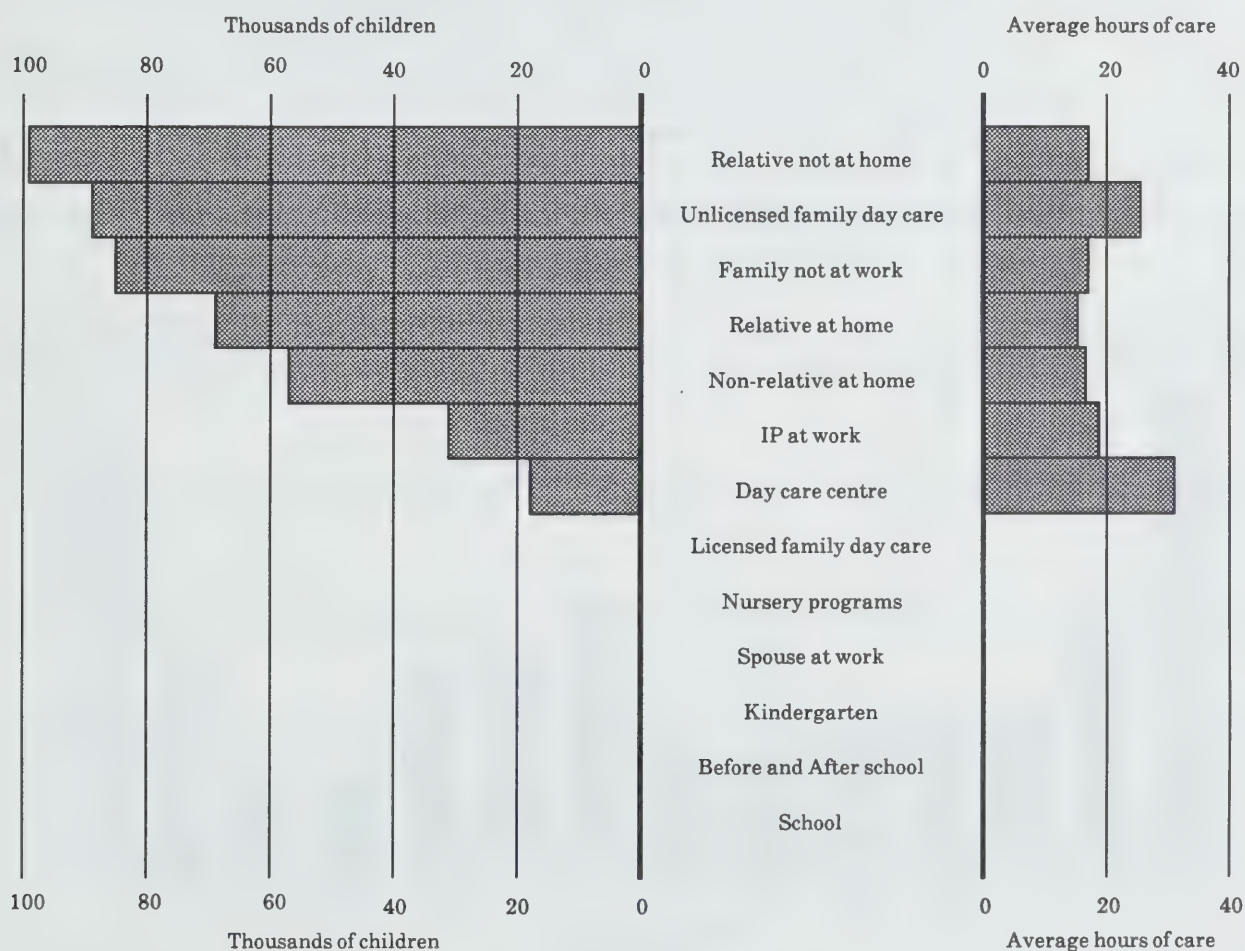
Table 22

**Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care,
Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care,
0 to 17 Months, Canada, 1988**

Rank	Care Type	Number of Children	Percentage of Children	Rank	Care Type	Average Hours
1	Relative not at home	99,200	17.7	1	Day care centre	30.9
2	Unlicensed family day care	88,800	15.9	2	Unlicensed family day care	25.4
3	Family not at work	85,400	15.3	3	IP at work	18.6
4	Relative at home	69,000	12.3	4	Family not at work	17.1
5	Non-relative at home	57,300	10.3	5	Relative not at home	16.9
6	IP at work	30,800	5.5	6	Non-relative at home	16.2
7	Day care centre	17,600	3.2	7	Relative at home	16.0

Figure 2

**Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of
Use, 0 to 17 Months**



Regulated care for infants is rare - only 3.2% of infants were in day care centres and fewer than a reportable number of infants were in licensed family day care homes. While relatively few infants were in licensed day care centres, those who were spent a lot of time in them - an average of 30.9 hours.

There was one informal (non-licensed, non-regulated) non-parental arrangement used by large numbers of children and for many hours. Of infants, 15.9% were in unlicensed family day care spending an average of 25.4 hours in such care during the reference week.

Of infants, 5.5% (30,800) were cared for by IPs at work. While this proportion is relatively small, it is larger than that for infants cared for in day care centres, licensed family day care or nursery schools. The number of children who spent time in the care of the spouse at work was too small to report.

Reporting the average numbers of hours children spend in child care gives only a rough indication of how different types of child care are used. Some children may spend fewer than 10 hours per week in care, while others may spend greater than 30 hours per week. Thus, averages give, at best, an incomplete, and possibly misleading, perception of day care use.

A better measure of day care use is the **distribution of hours in care**. Distributions were reported in five-hour periods: 1 to 5 hours, 6 to 10 hours, 11 to 15 hours, 16 to 20 hours, etc. up to 61 or more hours. Large proportions of infants were in care for 1 to 5 and 6 to 10 hours during the reference week (Figure 3). While the average time spent in care was 26.0 hours, a relatively small percentage of infants were actually in care for 26 to 30 hours during the reference week. In fact, most infants were in care for less than 10 hours or for more than 36 hours during the reference week. This "twin peak" distribution is known as a bimodal (i.e., two modal peaks) distribution.

Figure 3 **Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, 0 to 17 Months**

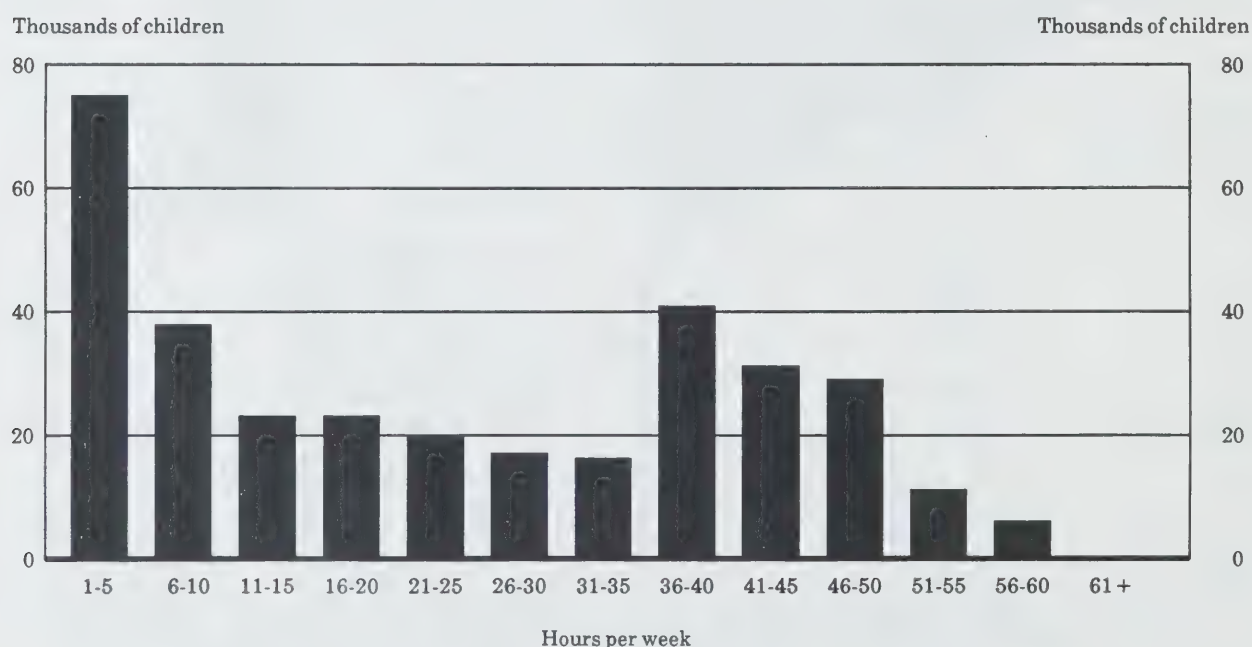


Figure 4 Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 0 to 17 Months

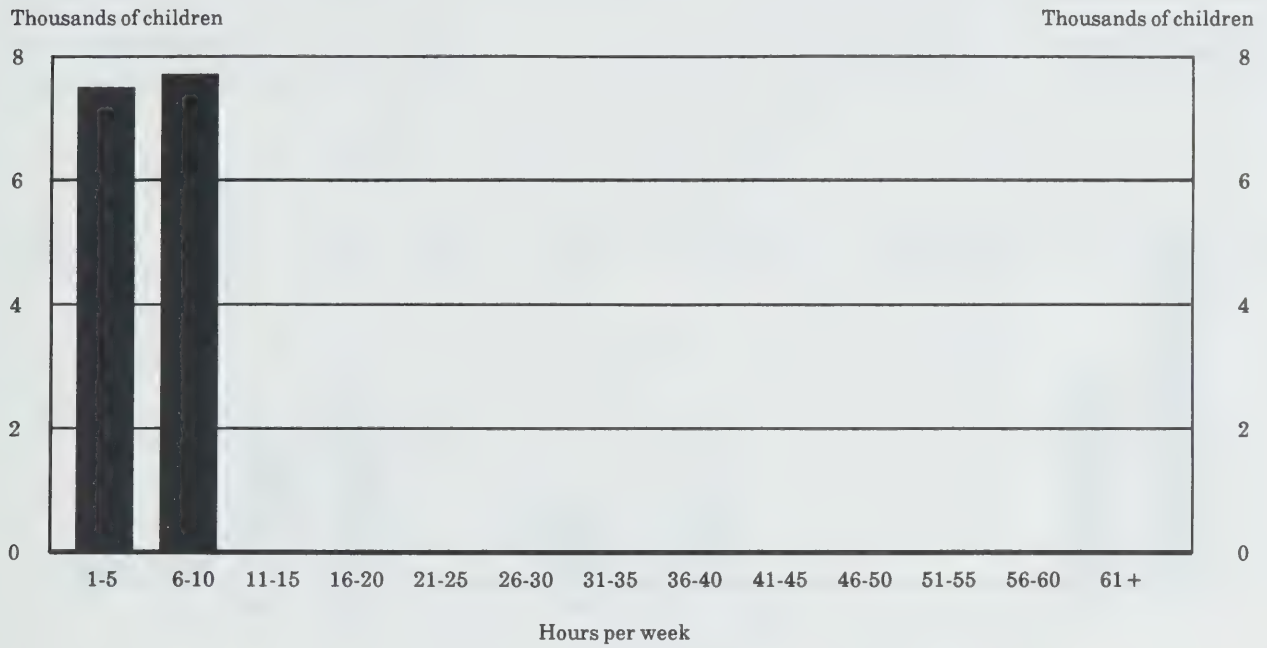


Figure 5 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months

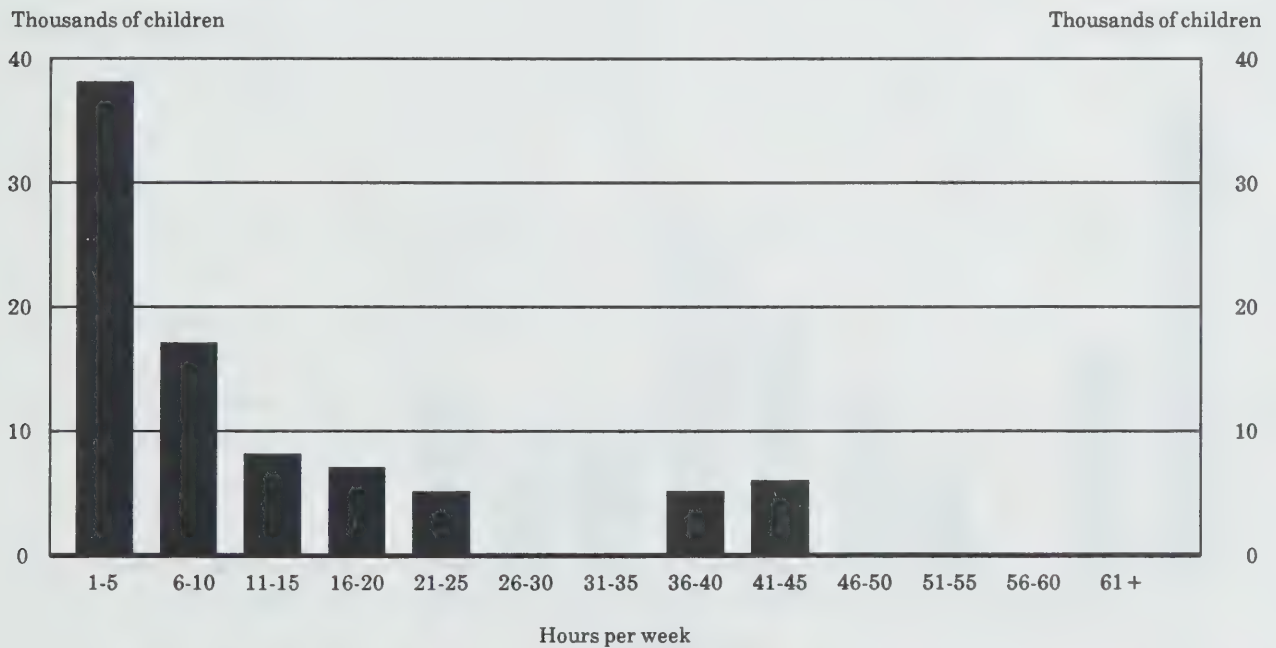


Figure 6 **Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months**

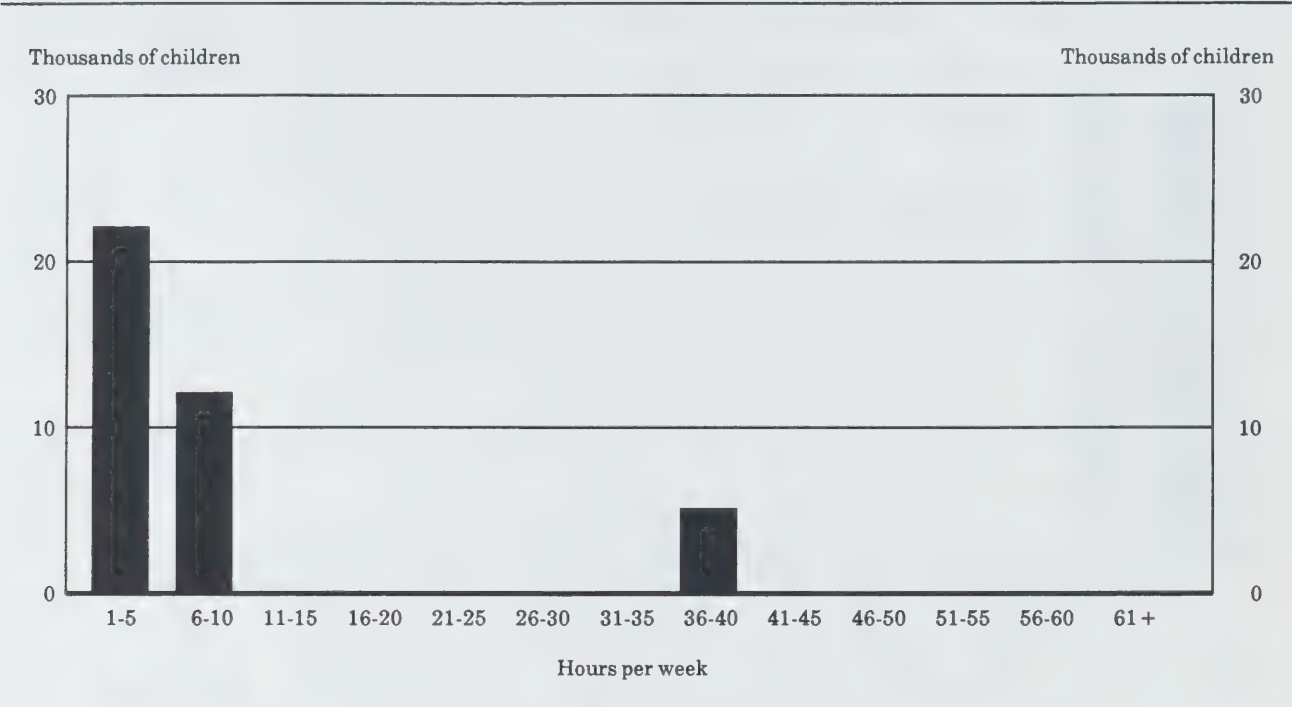


Figure 7 **Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months**

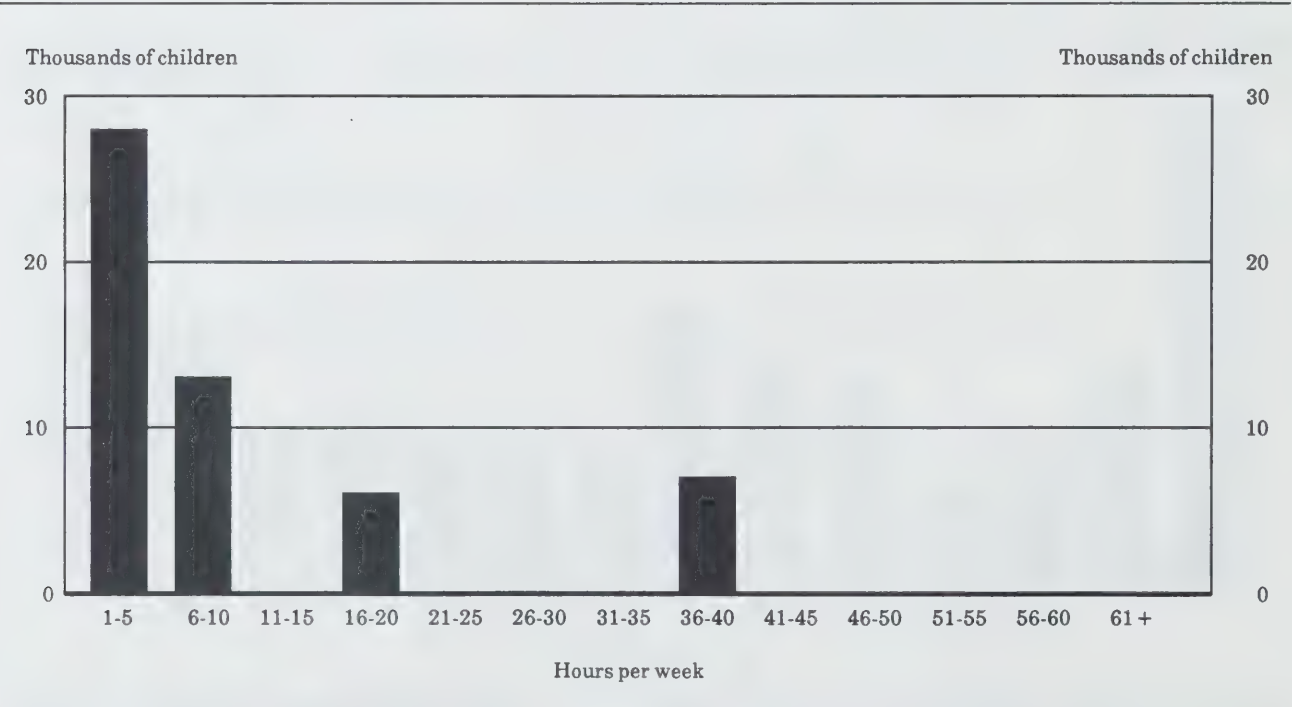


Figure 8 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 0 to 17 Months

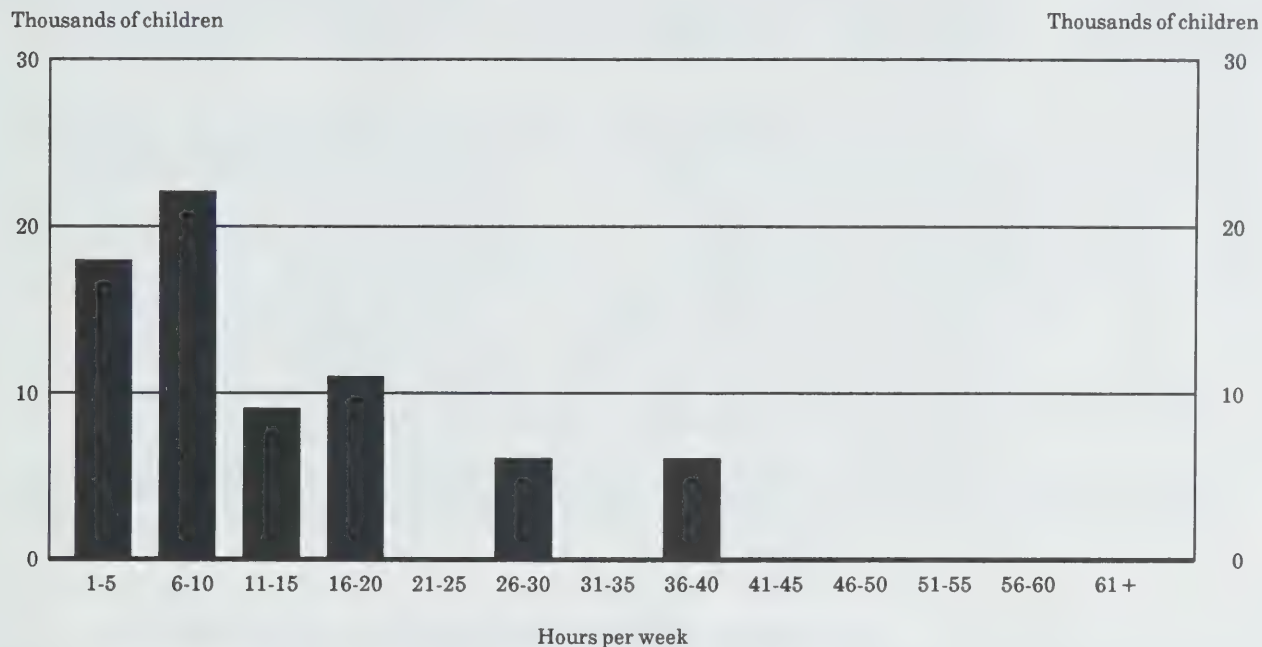
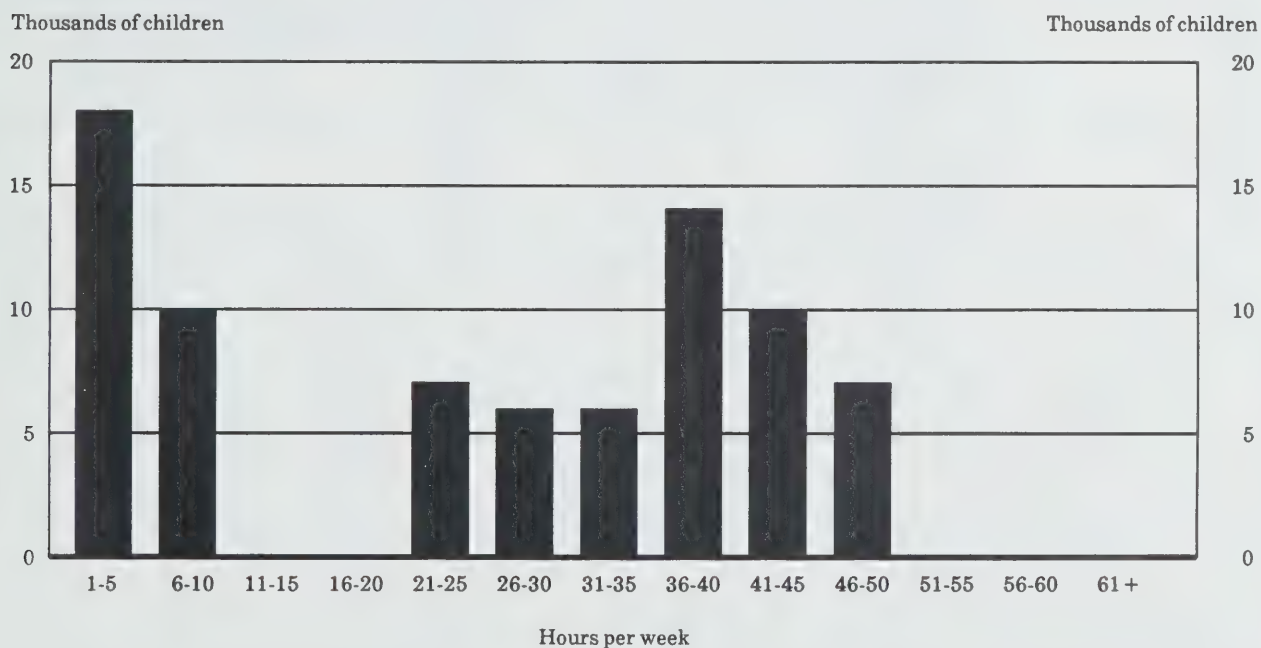


Figure 9 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 0 to 17 Months



Infants cared for by the IP at work spent an average of 18.6 hours in this type of care. This distribution shows that about 25% of infants were in this type of care for 1 to 5 hours and another 25% in this type of care for 6 to 10 hours; the remaining 50% were in the 11 to 60 hour range. (No other bars are found on the graph since fewer than 6,000 children were reported for each of the other five-hour categories. These small numbers are not considered to be statistically reliable.)

Similarly, 99,200 infants were cared for by a relative not in the child's home for an average of 16.9 hours in the reference week, but the largest proportion of infants were in this type of care for 1 to 10 hours or for 36 to 45 hours (Figure 5).

Most infants who were cared for by a relative in the child's home (Figure 7) or by immediate family members (i.e., spouse, sibling) in the child's home (Figure 8) spent 1 to 10 hours in such care during the reference week. Infants in unlicensed family day care spent an average of 25.4 hours there during the reference week (Figure 9). The distribution of hours revealed large numbers of children in four distinct time frames: 1 to 5 hours, 6 to 10 hours, 36 to 40 hours and 41 to 45 hours. This distribution suggests that significant numbers of children used this type of care on a half-time or full-time basis.

Relatively few infants were in either licensed family day care or licensed day care centres. Indeed, the numbers of children in the distribution were too low to be statistically reliable; therefore, graphs of the distributions for these types of care are not included.

4.2 Child care used for children aged 18 to 35 months

Child care use by toddlers (18 to 35 months) was similar to that of infants (0 to 17 months) (Tables 23 and 24). For both age groups, the largest numbers of children (and highest percentages) were cared for by a family member not at work (i.e., spouse, sibling or self-care), a relative or an unlicensed non-relative in the provider's home. For both groups, large numbers were also cared for by relatives and non-relatives in the child's home. However, more toddlers than infants were in licensed day care centres, nursery school and licensed family day care homes. Of toddlers, 9.6% (51,200) were in a day care centre for an average of 30.1 hours during the reference week. The 2.1% (11,100) in licensed family day care were enrolled for an average of 26.8 hours.

Table 23 **Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 18 to 35 Months, Canada, 1988**

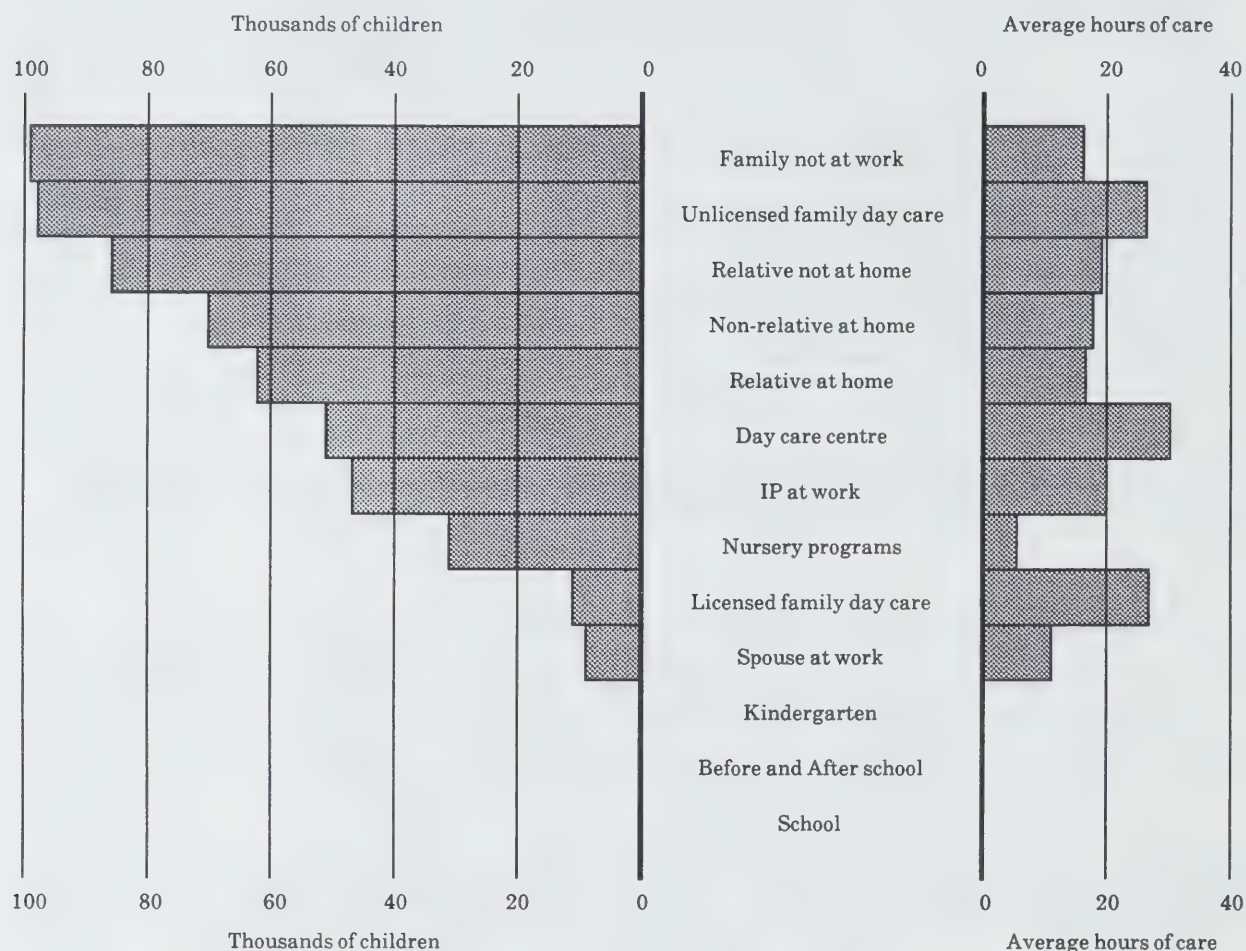
	Percentage of Children in Care Arrangement	Number of Children in Care Arrangement	Average Hours of Care for Children in Care Arrangement
IP at work	8.7	46,500	19.8
Spouse at work	1.7 ^q	8,900 ^q	11.0 ^q
Family not at work	18.5	98,500	16.1
Relative at home	11.6	61,600	16.7
Relative not at home	16.1	85,600	19.2
Non-relative at home	13.2	70,200	17.9
Licensed family day care	2.1 ^q	11,100 ^q	26.8 ^q
Unlicensed family day care	18.4	97,800	26.3
Day care centre	9.6	51,200	30.1
Nursery programs	5.7	30,600	5.7
Kindergarten	...	...	...
Before and after school	...	...	...
School	...	...	...
All Care Types	70.6	375,300	29.7

There are 531,900 children in this age category. Since children participate in more than one care arrangement the rows and columns are not additive.

Table 24 **Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 18 to 35 Months, Canada, 1988**

Rank	Care Type	Number of Children	Percentage of Children	Rank	Care Type	Average Hours
1	Family not at work	98,500	18.5	1	Day care centre	30.1
2	Unlicensed family day care	97,800	18.4	2	Licensed family day care	26.8 ^q
3	Relative not at home	85,600	16.1	3	Unlicensed family day care	26.3
4	Non-relative at home	70,200	13.2	4	IP at work	19.8
5	Relative at home	61,600	11.6	5	Relative not at home	19.2
6	Day care centre	51,200	9.6	6	Non-relative at home	17.9
7	IP at work	46,500	8.7	7	Relative at home	16.7
8	Nursery programs	30,600	5.7	8	Family not at work	16.1
9	Licensed family day care	11,100 ^q	2.1 ^q	9	Spouse at work	11.0 ^q
10	Spouse at work	8,900 ^q	1.7 ^q	10	Nursery programs	5.7

Figure 10 Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 18 to 35 Months



One of the most frequently used types of care in terms of both numbers of children and the average hours used was care by an unlicensed non-relative not in the child's home (unlicensed family day care). 18.4% of toddlers (97,800) spent an average of 26.3 hours in this type of care. This was the third most used type of child care after day care centres and licensed family day care.

Toddlers' distribution of hours in all types of care combined was similar to that of infants (Figure 11). Large numbers of toddlers were in care for 1 to 5 hours, 6 to 10 hours, 36 to 40 hours and 41 to 45 hours.

Figure 11 Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, 18 to 35 Months

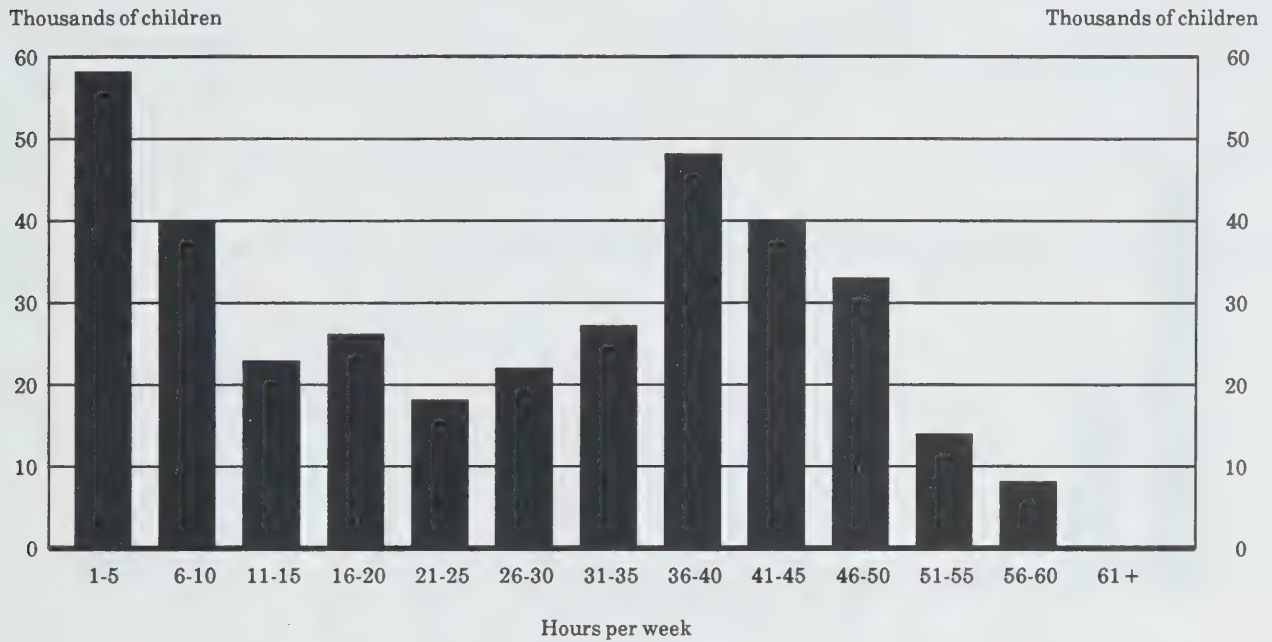


Figure 12 Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 18 to 35 Months

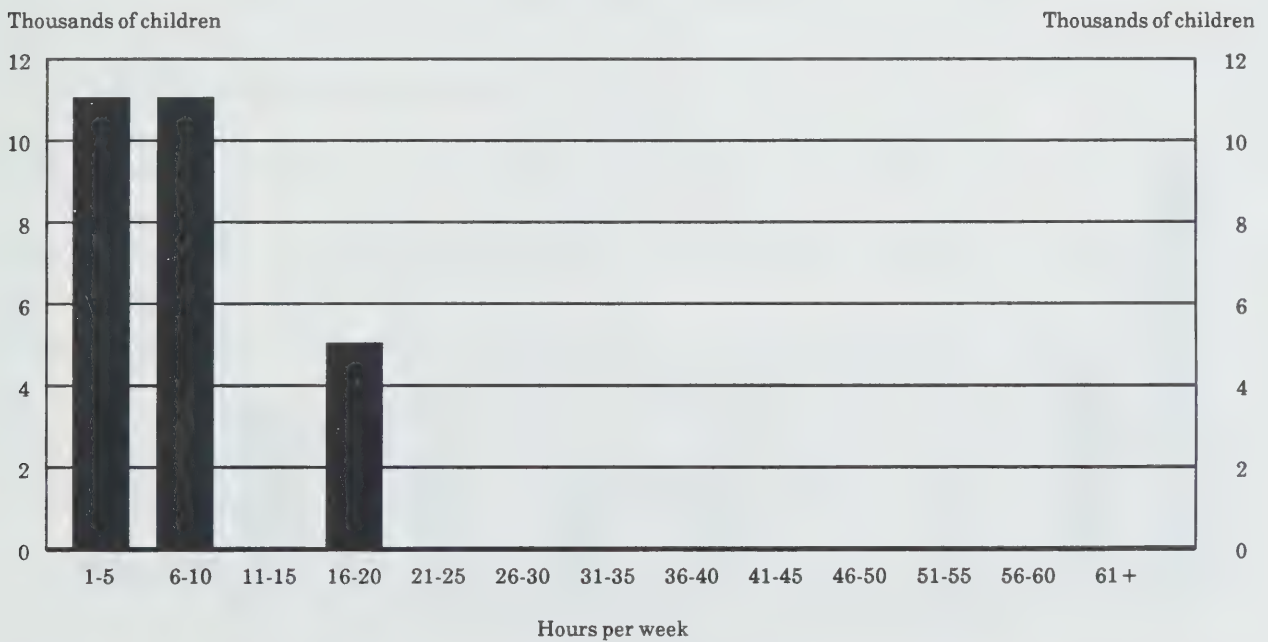


Figure 13 **Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months**

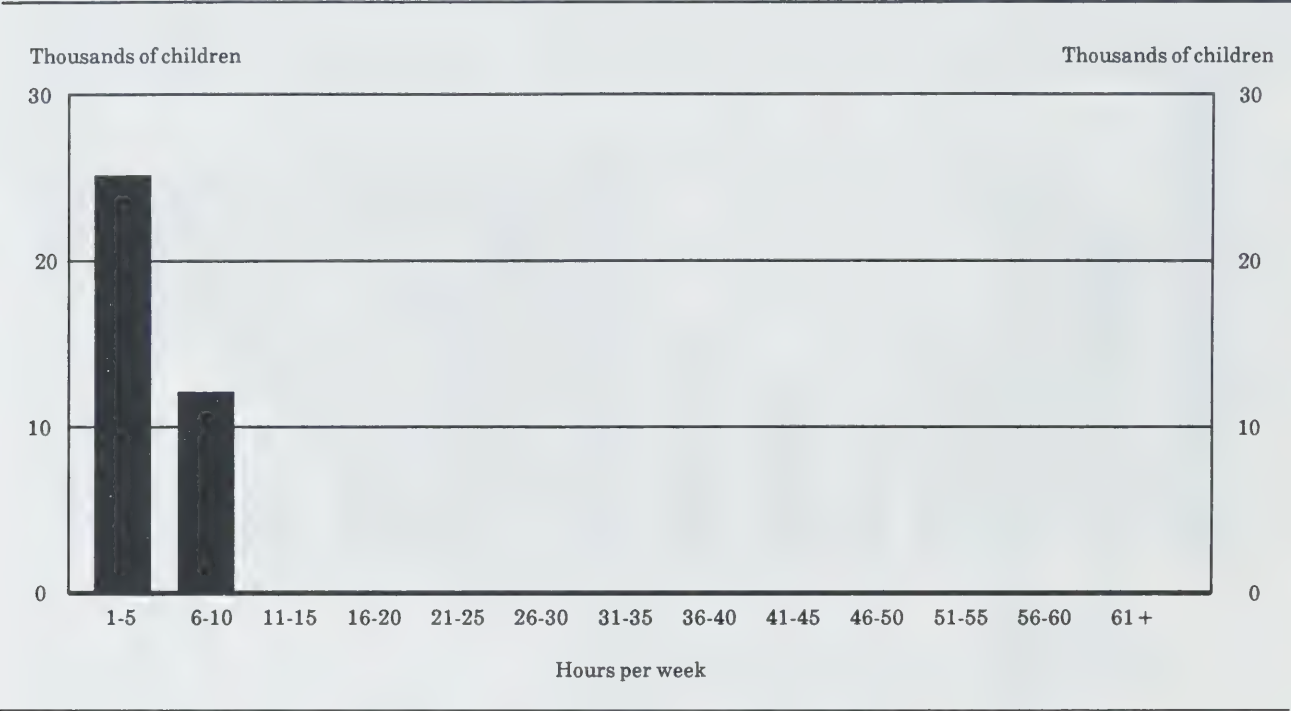


Figure 14 **Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months**

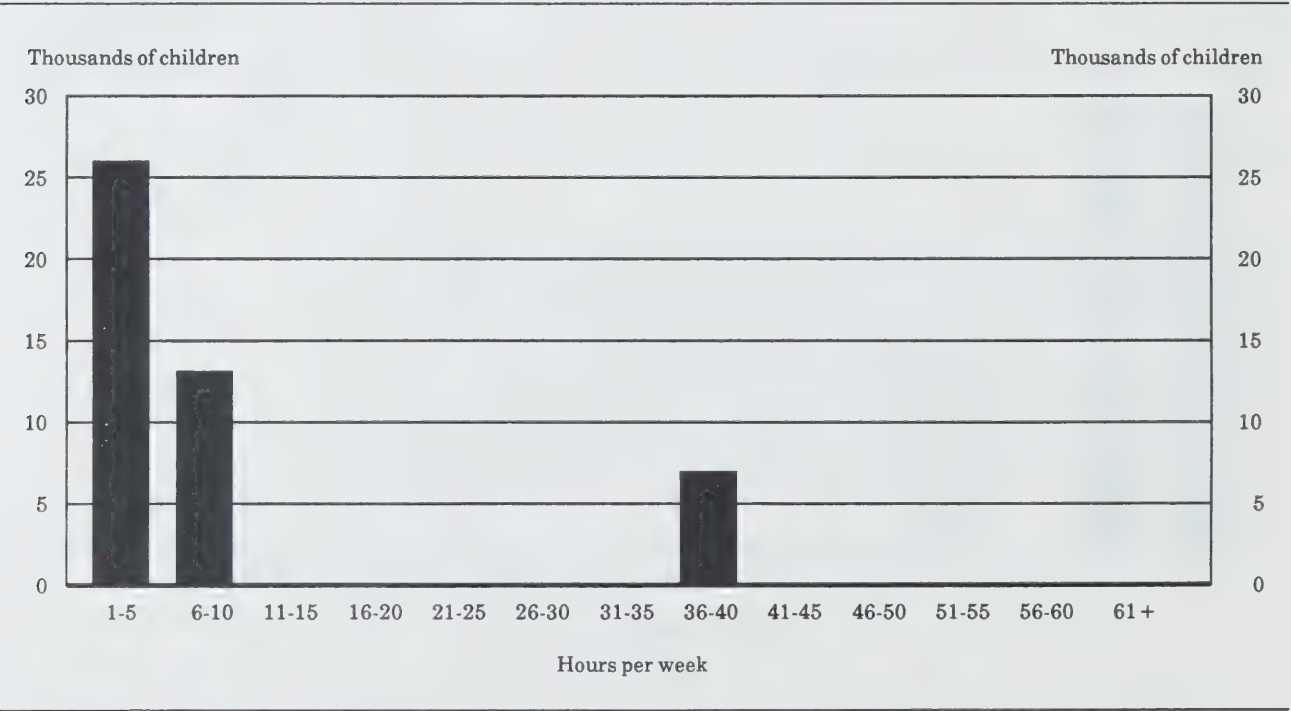


Figure 15 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months

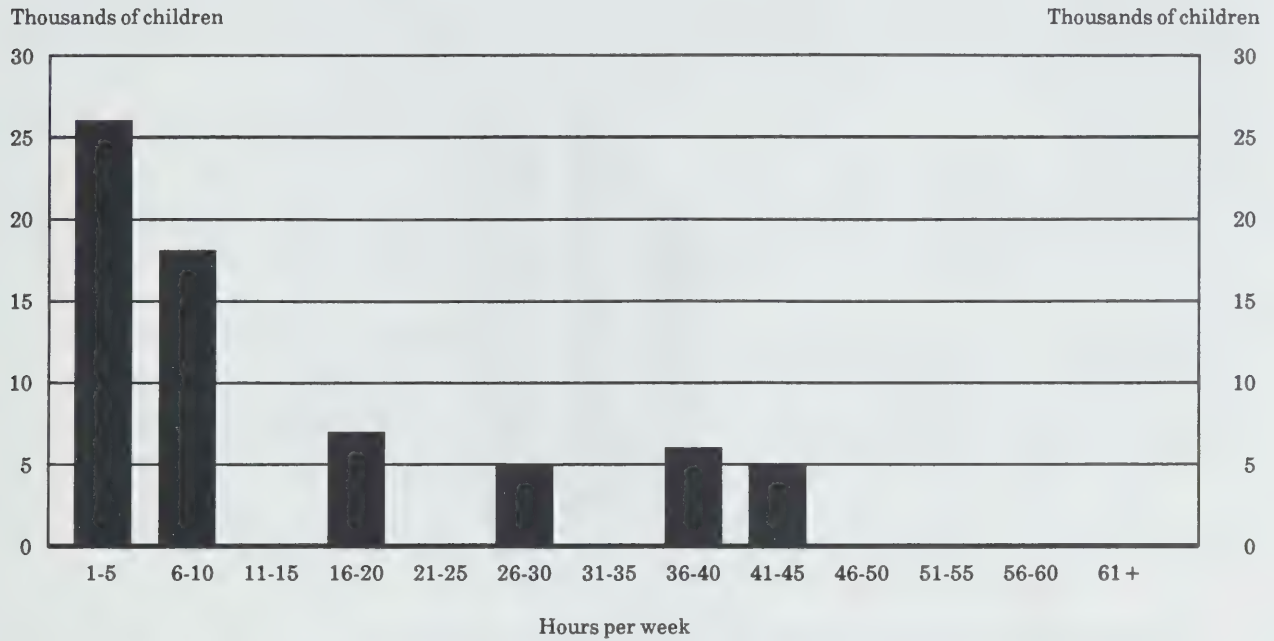


Figure 16 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 18 to 35 Months

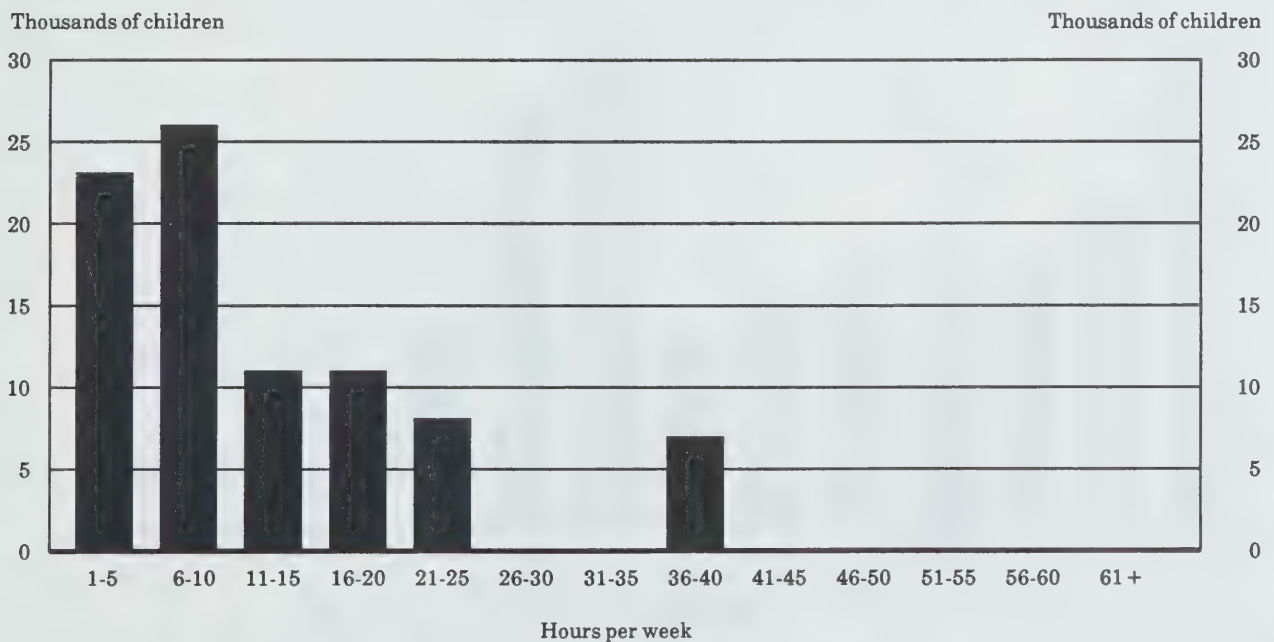


Figure 17 Distribution of Hours in a Day Care Centre, 18 to 35 Months

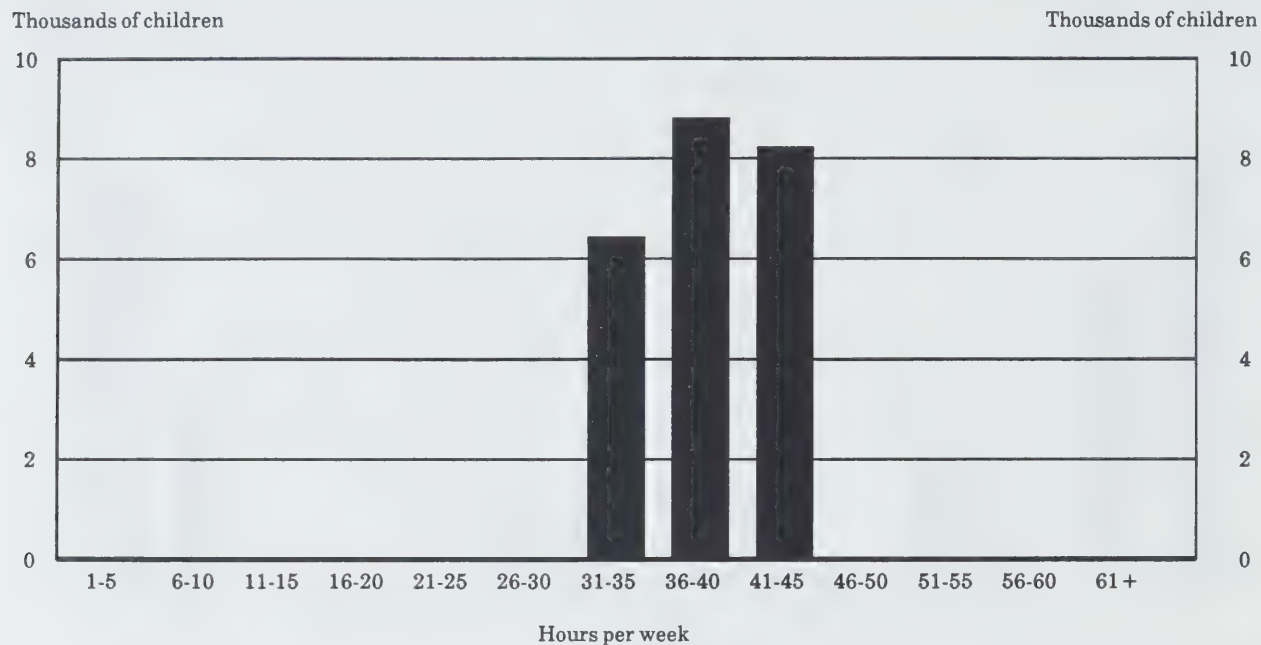
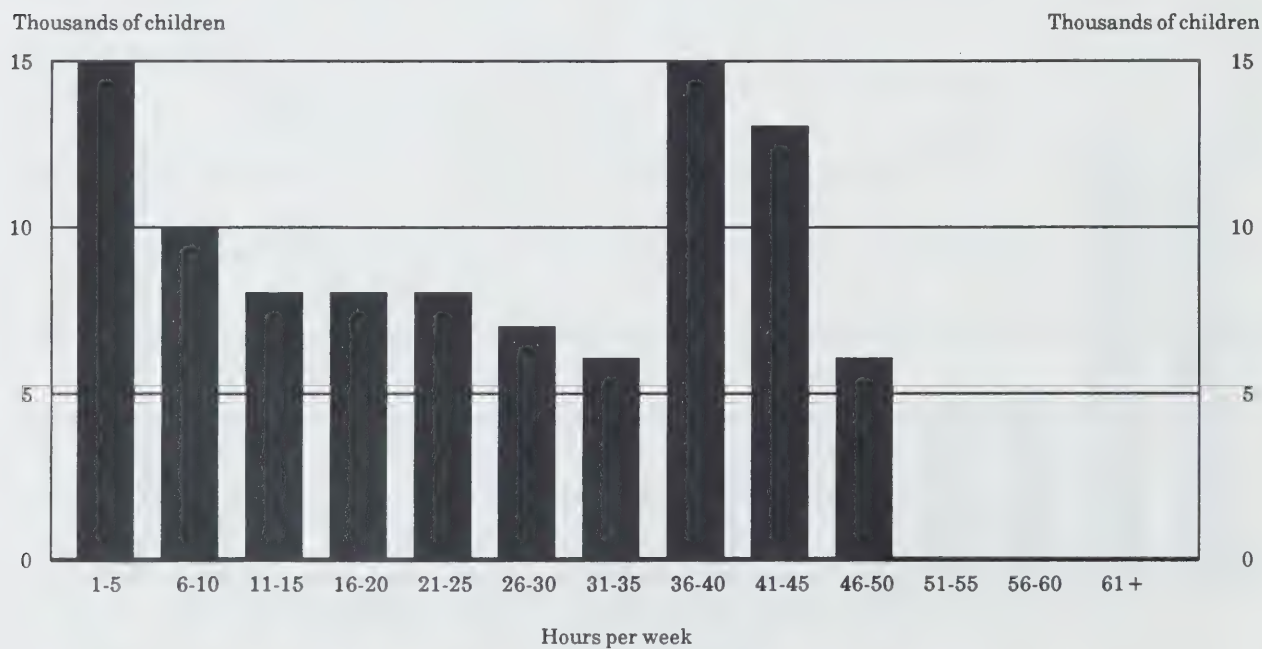


Figure 18 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 18 to 35 Months



Large numbers of infants spent relatively few hours in care by a non-relative in the child's home (Figure 14), care by a relative not in the child's home (Figure 15) and care by an immediate family member in the child's home (Figure 16). Relatively large numbers of infants were in care for 1 to 5 or 6 to 10 hours. Few (and non-reportable) numbers of infants used these arrangements for 11 to 35 hours. For all three arrangements, there were reportable numbers of infants in the 36 to 40 hour range. A different pattern was found for toddlers in day care centres. The largest proportions were enrolled for 31 to 35, 36 to 40 and 41 to 45 hours (Figure 17).

The distribution of hours for toddlers suggests that they used in-home types of day care for relatively few hours in the reference week. However, a large proportion of toddlers used day care centres for 31 or more hours in the week. (As with infants, the number of toddlers in licensed family day care was too small to be statistically reliable.)

The distribution of hours for toddlers in unlicensed family day care is markedly different than those for licensed and unlicensed care. For family care, toddlers had a two-peaked distribution: large numbers were in care for 1 to 5 and 6 to 10 hours and for 36 to 40 and 41 to 45 hours (Figure 18). As the only distribution for this age group with about equal numbers of children at the two modal peaks, it is distinctive.

4.3 Child care used for children aged 3 to 5 years

Large numbers of children aged 3 to 5 participated in kindergarten and nursery school programs. Of 3 to 5 year-old children, 30% (322,000) were in kindergarten programs and 19.4% (207,900) were in nursery school programs (Tables 25 and 26). At the time of the CNCCS, New Brunswick, Alberta and Prince Edward Island did not have mandatory public kindergarten programs.

Table 25

Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 3 to 5 Years, Canada, 1988

	Percentage of Children in Care Arrangement	Number of Children in Care Arrangement	Average Hours of Care for Children in Care Arrangement
IP at work	8.9	95,100	17.2
Spouse at work	1.9	20,400	10.1
Family not at work	20.1	215,600	14.8
Relative at home	10.5	112,900	17.4
Relative not at home	13.8	148,400	17.3
Non-relative at home	11.9	127,300	14.6
Licensed family day care	1.4	15,400	20.3
Unlicensed family day care	17.6	189,500	20.1
Day care centre	10.8	115,700	30.0
Nursery programs	19.4	207,900	9.4
Kindergarten	30.0	322,000	12.8
Before and after school	1.1 ^a	11,900 ^a	16.7 ^a
School	6.5	69,400	34.0
All Care Types	86.4	927,600	29.8

There are 1,073,900 children in this age category. Since children participate in more than one care arrangement the rows and columns are not additive.

Table 26 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 3 to 5 Years, Canada, 1988

Rank	Care Type	Number of Children	Percentage of Children	Rank	Care Type	Average Hours
1	Kindergarten	322,000	30.0	1	School	34.0
2	Family not at work	215,600	20.1	2	Day care centre	30.0
3	Nursery programs	207,900	19.4	3	Licensed family day care	20.3
4	Unlicensed family day care	189,500	17.6	4	Unlicensed family day care	20.1
5	Relative not at home	148,400	13.8	5	Relative at home	17.4
6	Non-relative at home	127,300	11.9	6	Relative not at home	17.3
7	Day care centre	115,700	10.8	7	IP at work	17.2
8	Relative at home	112,900	10.5	8	Before and after school	16.7 ^a
9	IP at work	95,100	8.9	9	Family not at work	14.8
10	School	69,400	6.5	10	Non-relative at home	14.6
11	Spouse at work	20,400	1.9	11	Kindergarten	12.8
12	Licensed family day care	15,400	1.4	12	Spouse at work	10.1
13	Before and after school	11,900 ^a	1.1 ^a	13	Nursery programs	9.4

Figure 19 Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 3 to 5 Years

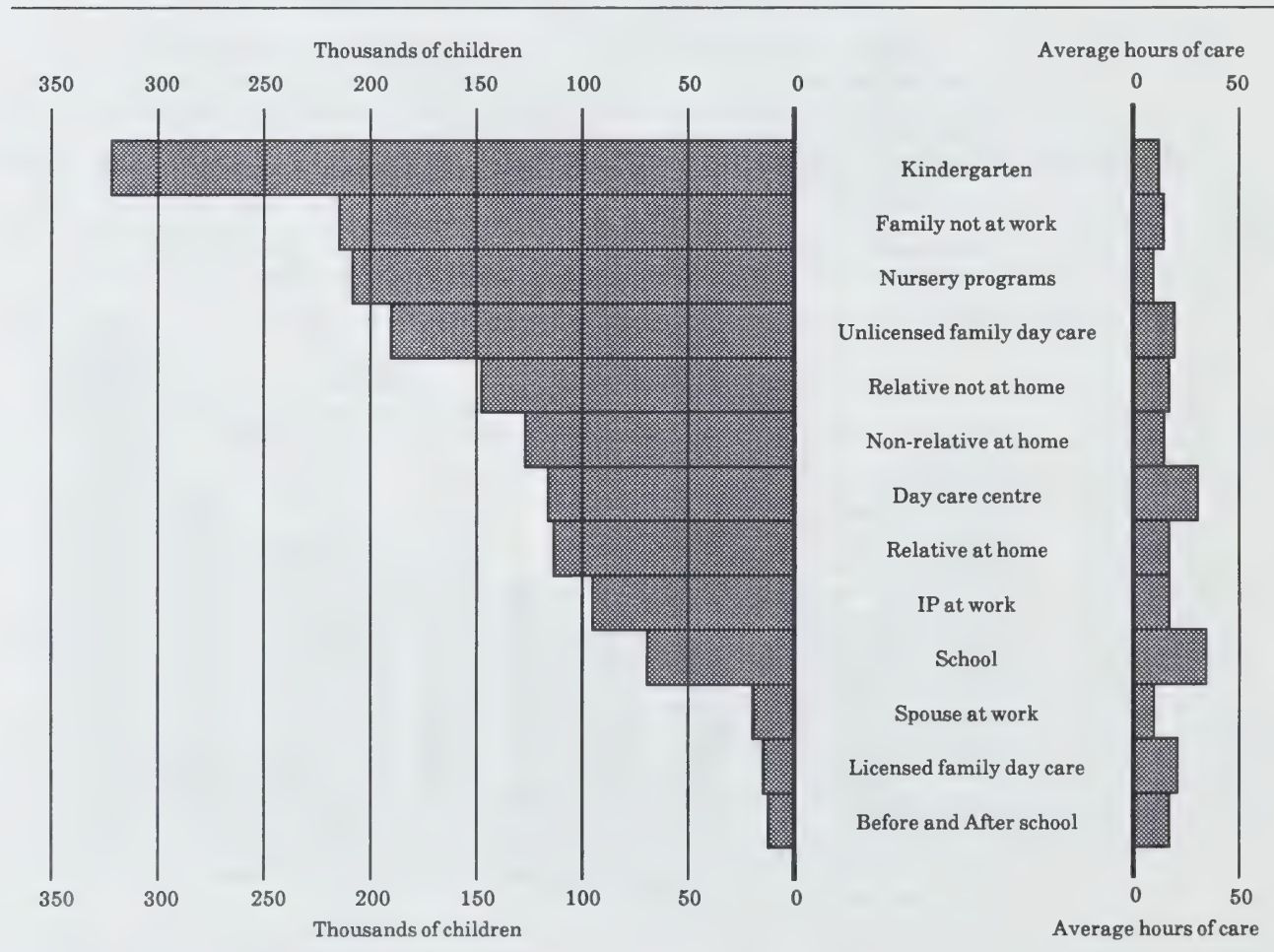


Figure 20 Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, 3 to 5 Years

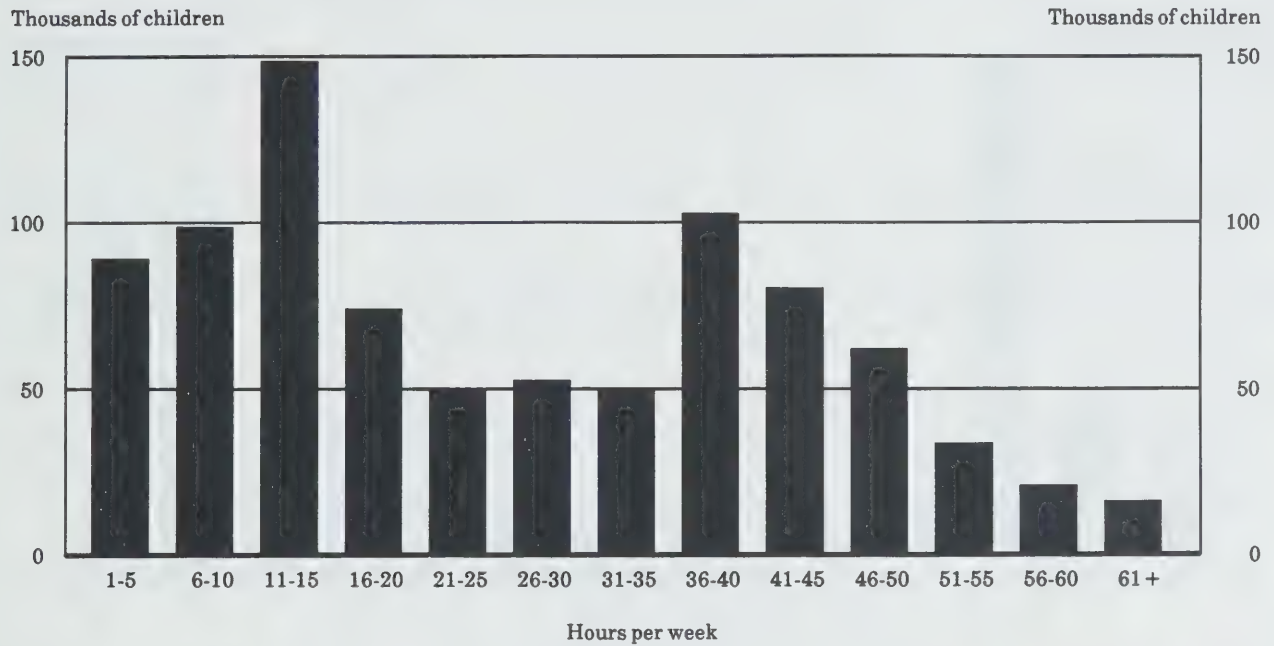


Figure 21 Distribution of Hours in Nursery School, 3 to 5 Years

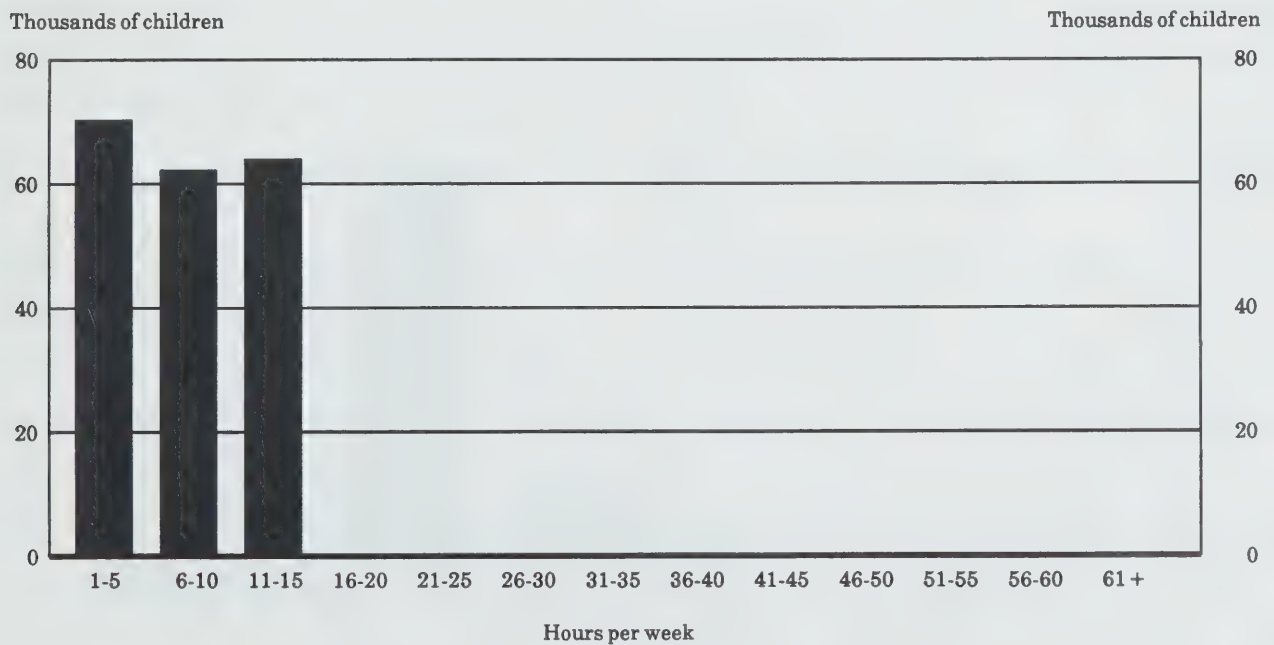


Figure 22 Distribution of Hours in Kindergarten, 3 to 5 Years

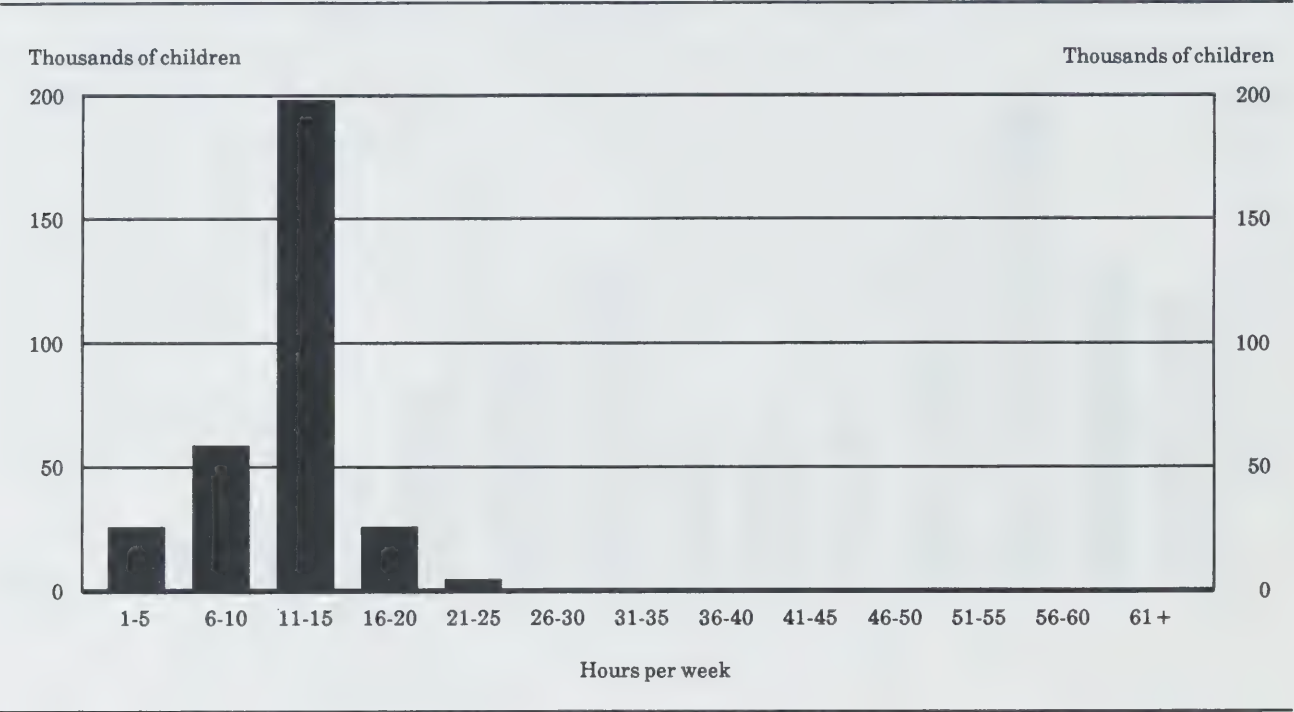


Figure 23 Distribution of Hours in School, 3 to 5 Years

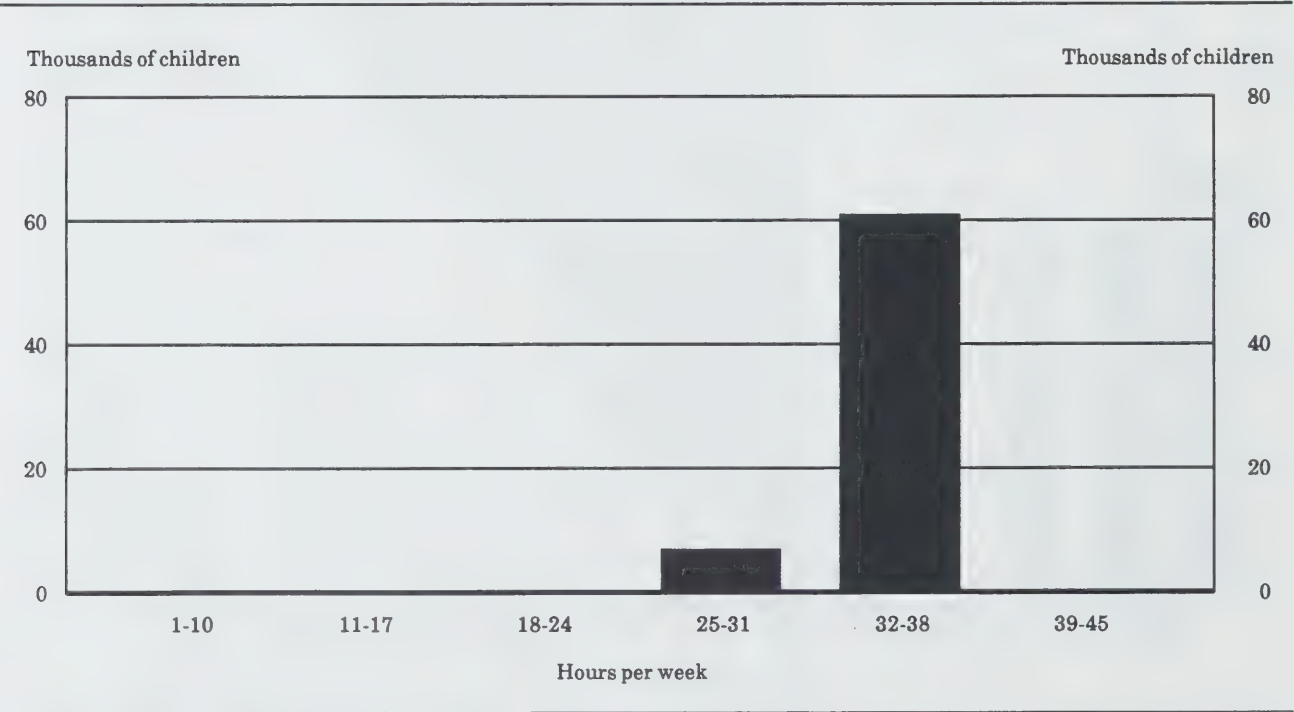


Figure 24 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years

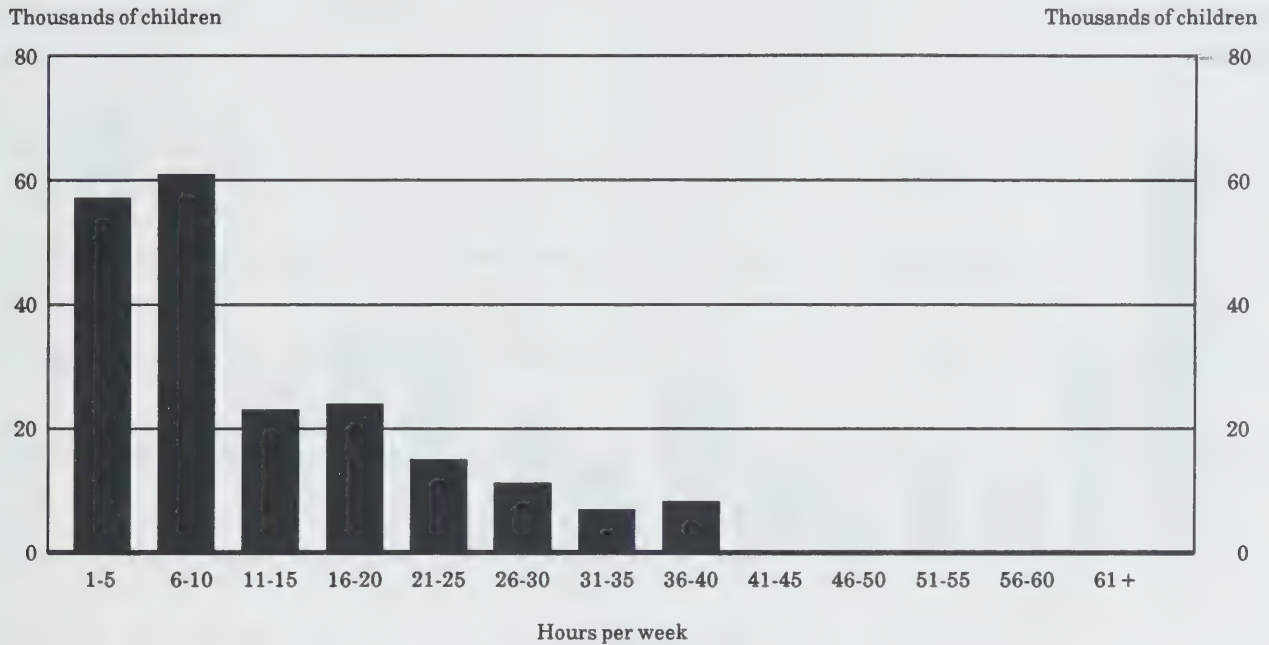


Figure 25 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years

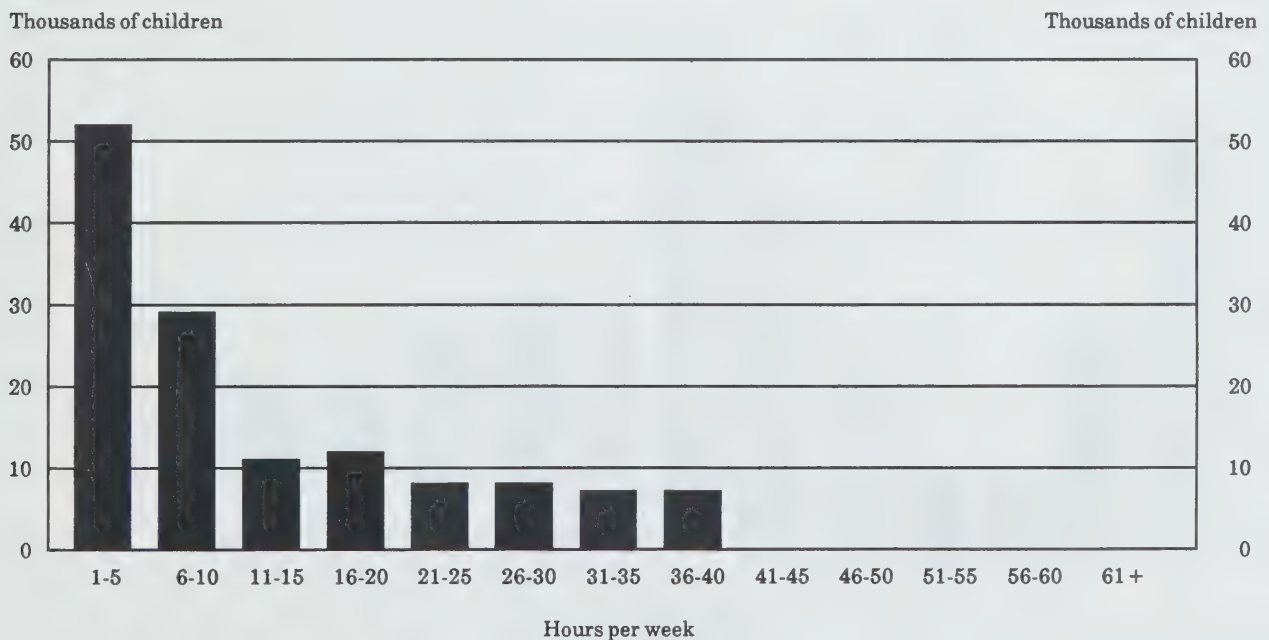


Figure 26 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years

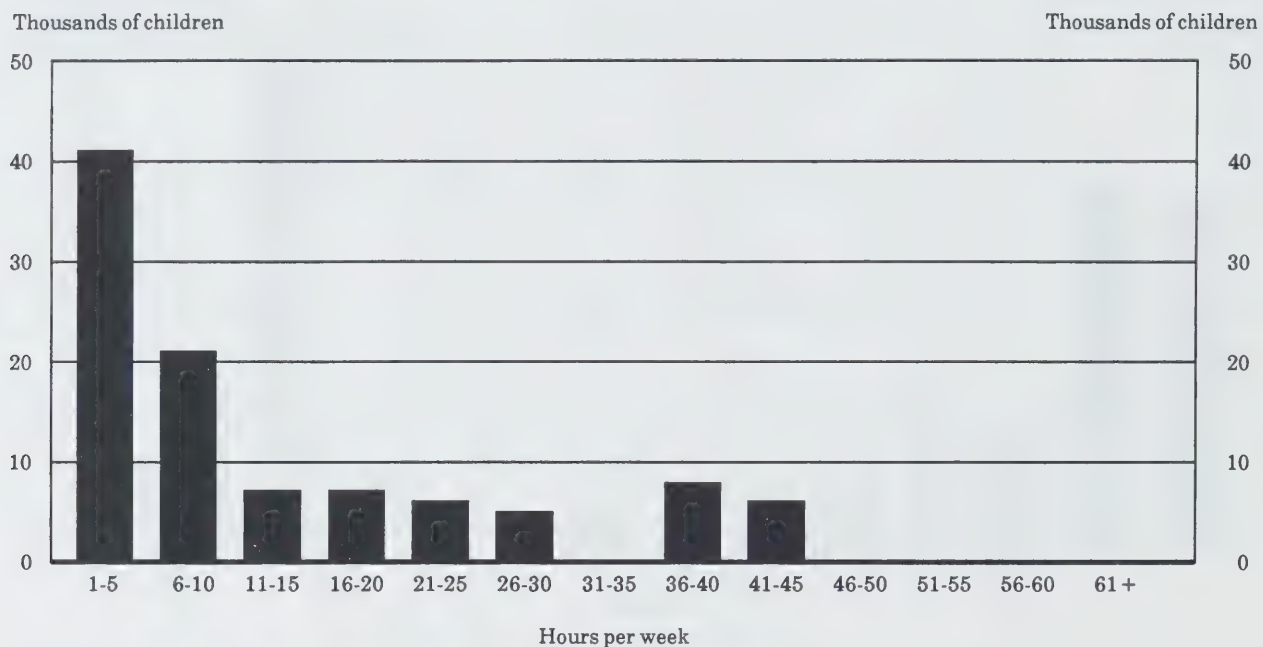


Figure 27 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 3 to 5 Years

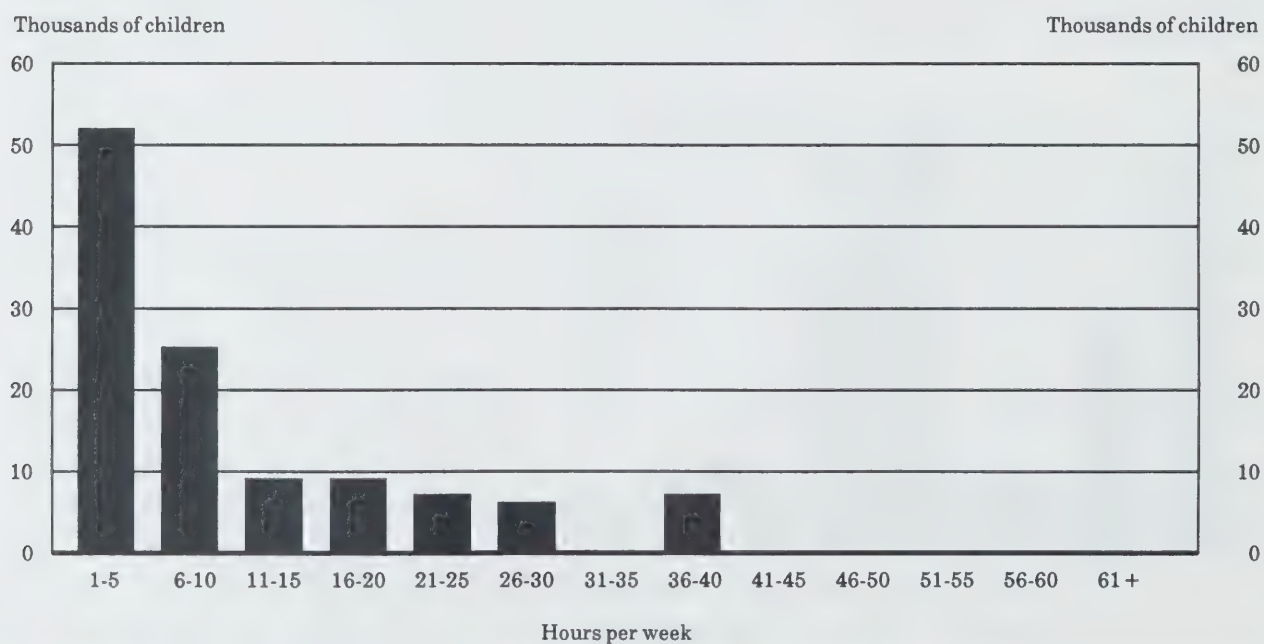


Figure 28 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 3 to 5 Years

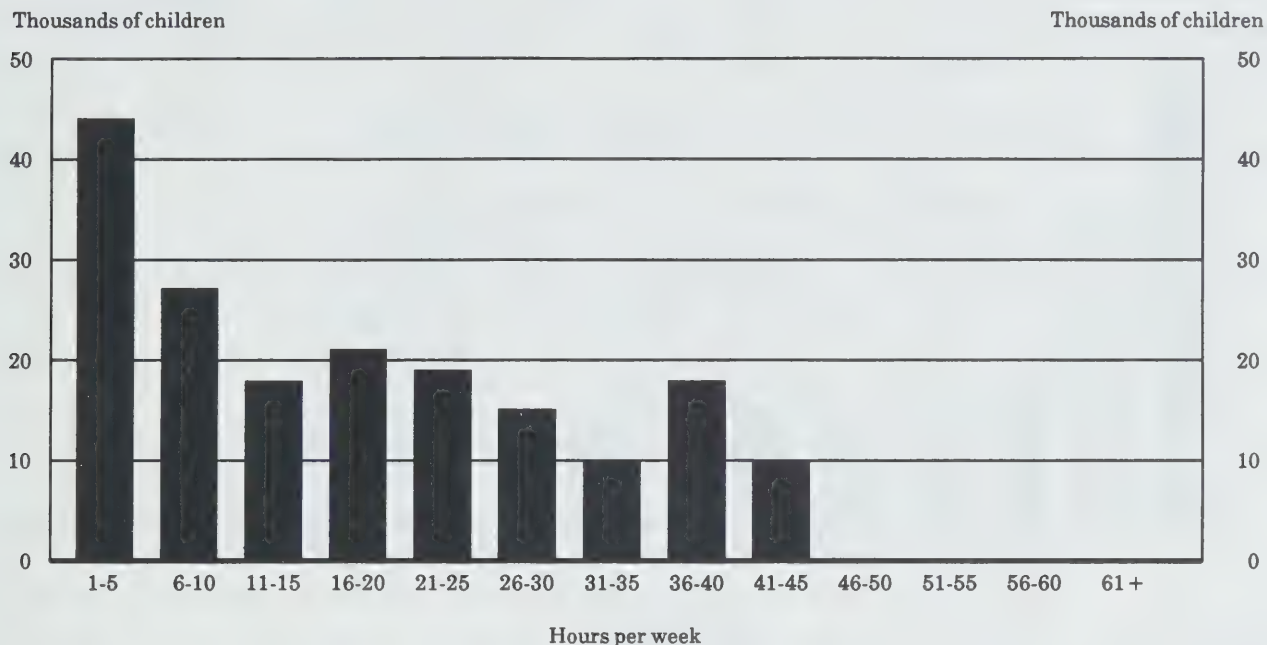


Figure 29 Distribution of Hours in a Day Care Centre, 3 to 5 Years

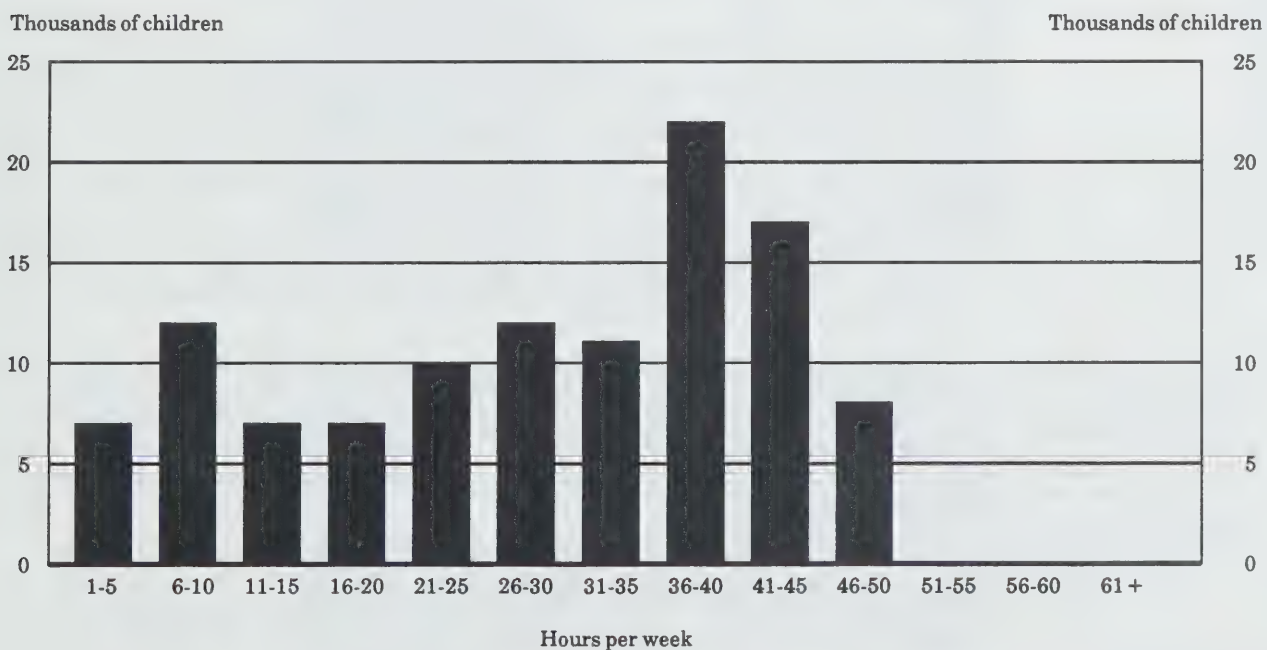
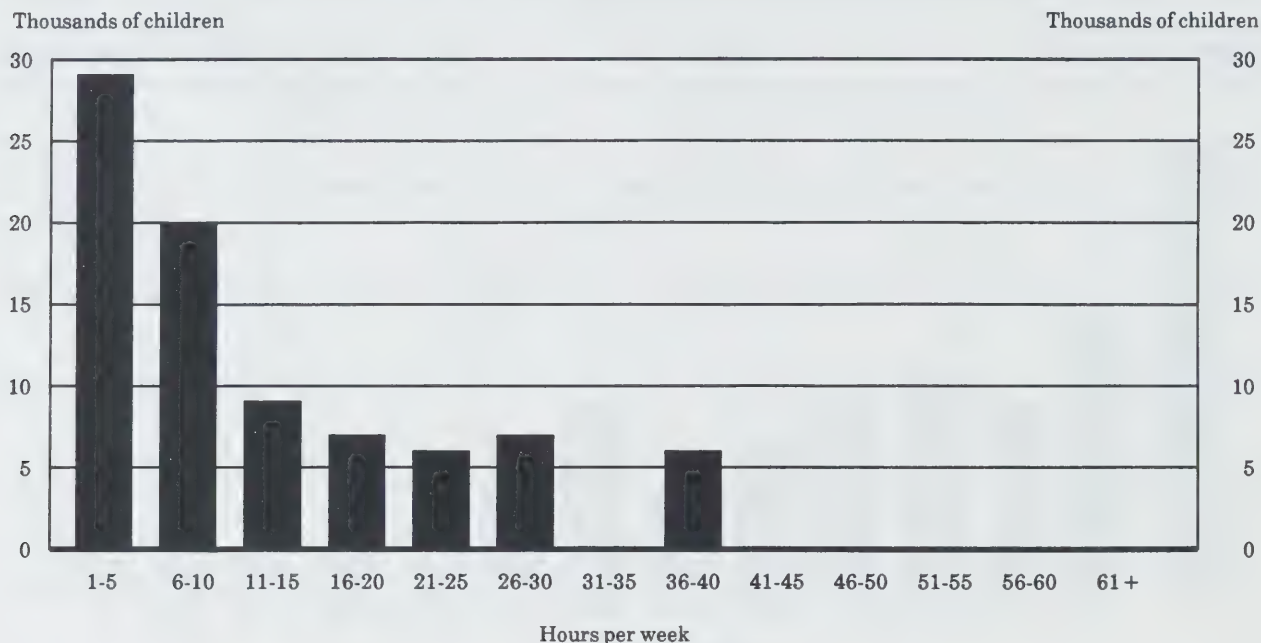


Figure 30 **Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 3 to 5 Years**



While children aged 3 to 5 tended to participate more in formal group child care, their other care arrangements are similar to those used by younger children. The distribution of hours for 3 to 5 year-olds in all care arrangements (excluding school) is very similar to the distribution for infants and toddlers (Figure 20).

Figure 21 shows the distribution of hours for 3 to 5 year-olds in nursery school programs. Of all 3 to 5 year-olds in nursery school programs, 93.8% were enrolled for 1 to 5, 6 to 10 or 11 to 16 hours. The disproportionately large numbers of children in kindergarten programs for 11 to 16 hours (Figure 22) reflect the fact that most kindergartens are half-day programs. The vast majority of 3 to 5 year-olds who were enrolled in school (Figure 23) spent an average of 31 to 35 hours there during the reference week.

Because most nursery school and kindergarten programs operate on a half-day basis for three, four or five days a week, there is little variability in the amount of time that children attend.

Three informal care arrangements were used by many preschoolers, but for relatively few hours: care by family at home (Figure 24); care by an immediate family member at home (Figure 25); and care by the IP at work (Figure 30). All three care types were used most often for 1 to 5 or 6 to 10 hours. Care in the child's home by a relative (Figure 26) or a non-relative (Figure 27) was also used for comparatively few hours.

The distribution of hours for 3 to 5 year-olds in unlicensed family day care (Figure 28) was similar to that of toddlers. Large proportions of these children were in these settings for 1 to 5 and 6 to 10 hours in the reference week; smaller proportions were in such care for 16 to 20 and 36 to 40 hours.

The distribution of hours for 3 to 5 year-olds in day care centres (Figure 29) was the mirror-image of that for unlicensed family day care. The largest proportion were in day care centres for 36 to 40 hours in the reference week, while smaller proportions were in such care for 6 to 10 and 26 to 30 hours.

4.4 Child care used for children aged 6 to 9 years

As children grow older their child care needs change markedly: the new factor in the child care equation becomes the children's attendance in school.

The CNCCS estimated full-time school enrollment to be seven hours a day for the five school days, or 35 hours during the reference week. Therefore, it is not surprising that school ranked as the most frequently used arrangement both in terms of the numbers of children and in terms of the average number of hours in care (Tables 27 and 28 and Figure 31). Care by family members (spouses at home, siblings, or self-care) was the next most frequently used type of care for 6 to 9 year-old children, followed by care by an unlicensed non-relative and by relatives in the providers' homes. Predictably, few children in this age group were in day care centres or in licensed family day care homes.

Table 27

Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 6 to 9 Years, Canada, 1988

	Percentage of Children in Care Arrangement	Number of Children in Care Arrangement	Average Hours of Care for Children in Care Arrangement
IP at work	6.3	90,100	12.9
Spouse at work	2.0	28,100	7.3
Family not at work	29.2	419,900	11.6
Relative at home	7.3	104,800	12.9
Relative not at home	8.8	126,600	11.2
Non-relative at home	8.8	125,800	10.5
Licensed family day care	0.6	8,900 ^a	9.0
Unlicensed family day care	12.8	184,000	9.2
Day care centre	1.2	17,800	12.8
Nursery programs	...	...	...
Kindergarten	0.5 ^a	6,700 ^a	15.1 ^a
Before and after school	4.2	60,400	10.8
School	97.3	1,397,700	34.0
All Care Types	98.7	1,418,500	42.7

There are 1,436,800 children in this age category. Since children participate in more than one care arrangement the rows and columns are not additive.

Unlicensed family day care was the third most commonly used type of care for 6 to 9 year-olds. Yet, these children (12.8% or 184,000) were in these settings for an average of only 9.2 hours during the reference week. Conversely, while only 1.2% of 6 to 9 year-olds were in day care centres, they were enrolled for an average of 12.8 hours in the reference week, the third highest average use.

The 6 to 9 year-old age group has reportable numbers of children in "before and after school" programs. Of 6 to 9 year-olds, 4.2% (60,400) were in these programs for an average of 10.8 hours during the reference week.

Table 28 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 6 to 9 Years, Canada, 1988

Rank	Care Type	Number of Children	Percentage of Children	Rank	Care Type	Average Hours
1	School	1,397,700	97.3	1	School	34.0
2	Family not at work	419,900	29.2	2	Kindergarten	15.1 ^a
3	Unlicensed family day care	184,000	12.8	3	Relative at home	12.9
4	Relative not at home	126,600	8.8	4	IP at work	12.9
5	Non-relative at home	125,800	8.8	5	Day care centre	12.8
6	Relative at home	104,800	7.3	6	Family not at work	11.6
7	IP at work	90,100	6.3	7	Relative not at home	11.2
8	Before and after school	60,400	4.2	8	Before and after school	10.8
9	Spouse at work	28,100	2.0	9	Non-relative at home	10.5
10	Day care centre	17,800	1.2	10	Unlicensed family day care	9.2
11	Licensed family day care	8,900 ^a	0.6	11	Licensed family day care	9.0
12	Kindergarten	6,700 ^a	0.5	12	Spouse at work	7.3

Figure 31 Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 6 to 9 Years

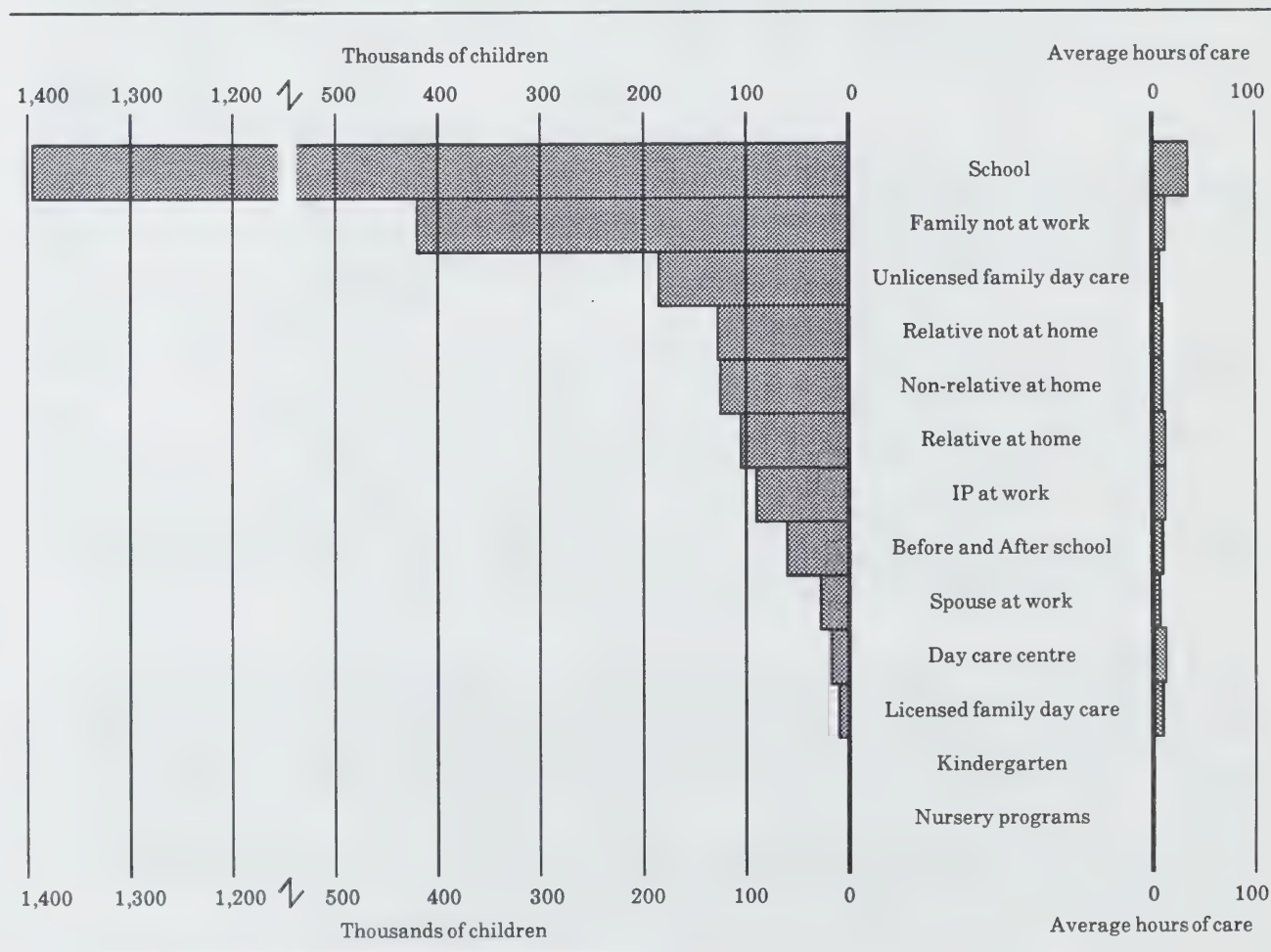


Figure 32 Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Including School, 6 to 9 Years

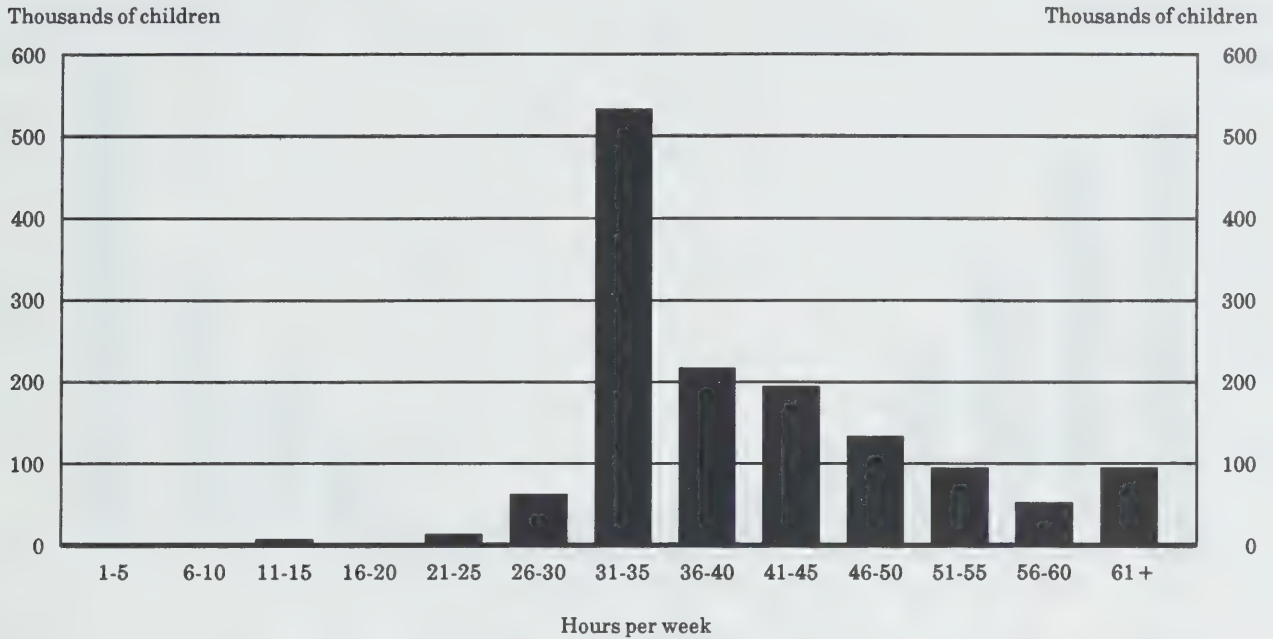


Figure 33 Distribution of Hours in School, 6 to 9 Years

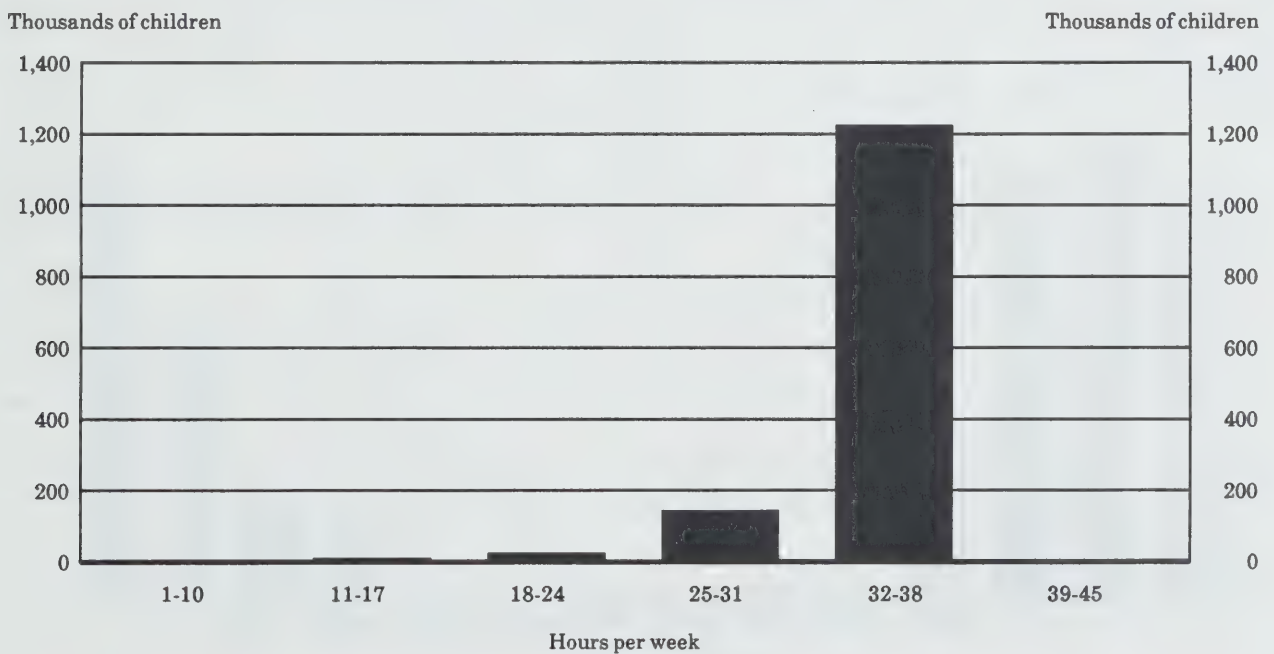


Figure 34 Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Excluding School, 6 to 9 Years

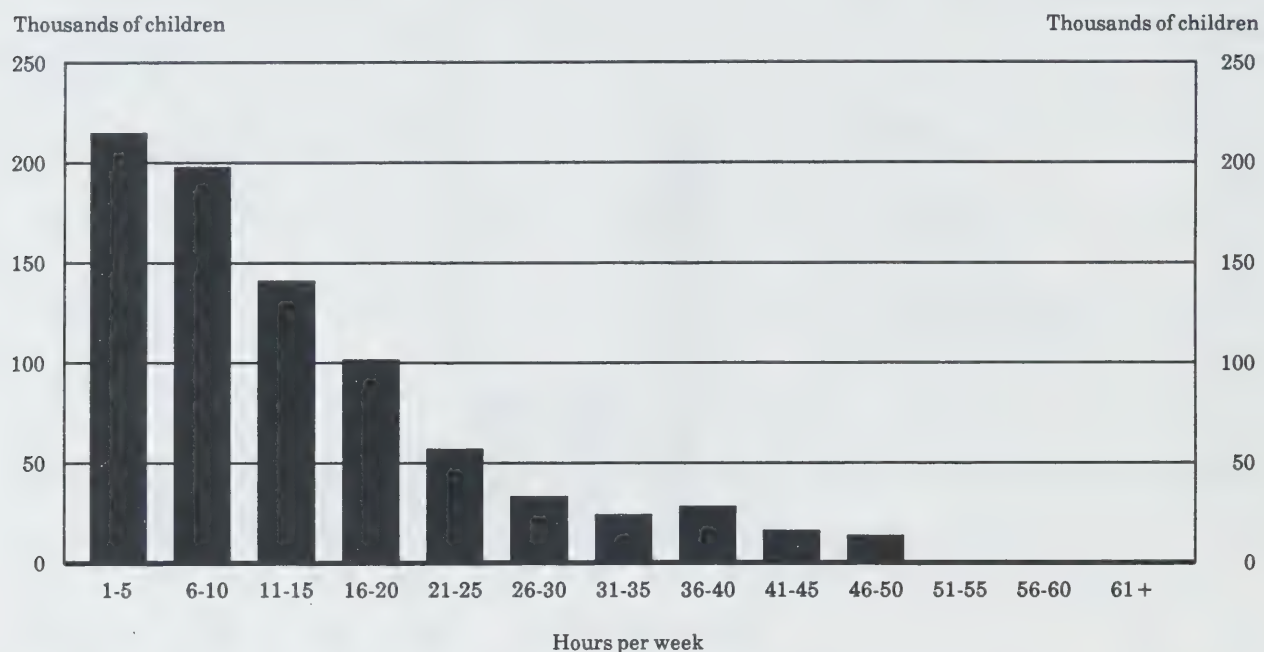


Figure 35 Distribution of Hours in Before and After School Programs, 6 to 9 Years

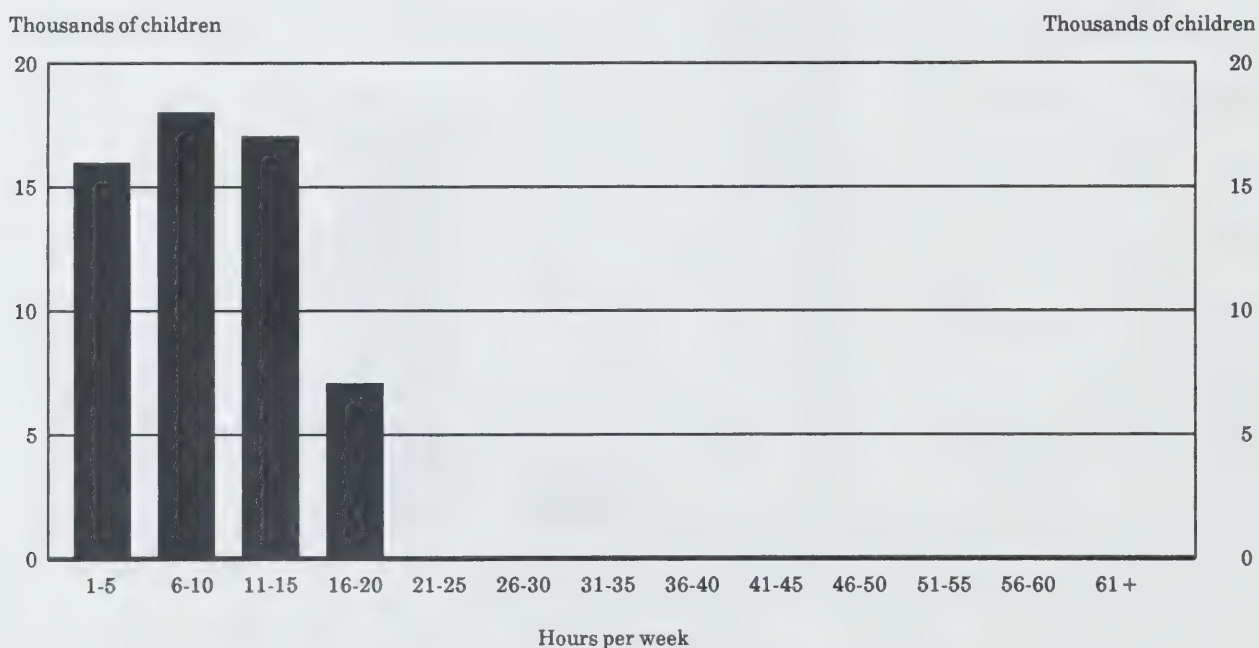


Figure 36 Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 6 to 9 Years

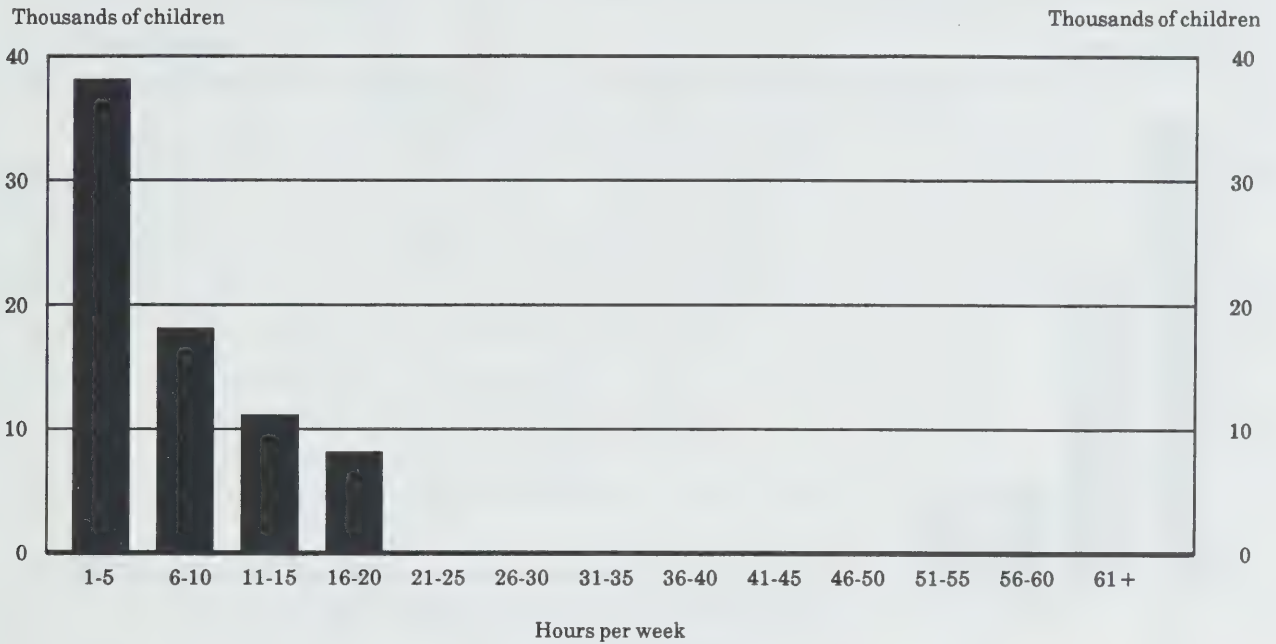


Figure 37 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 6 to 9 Years

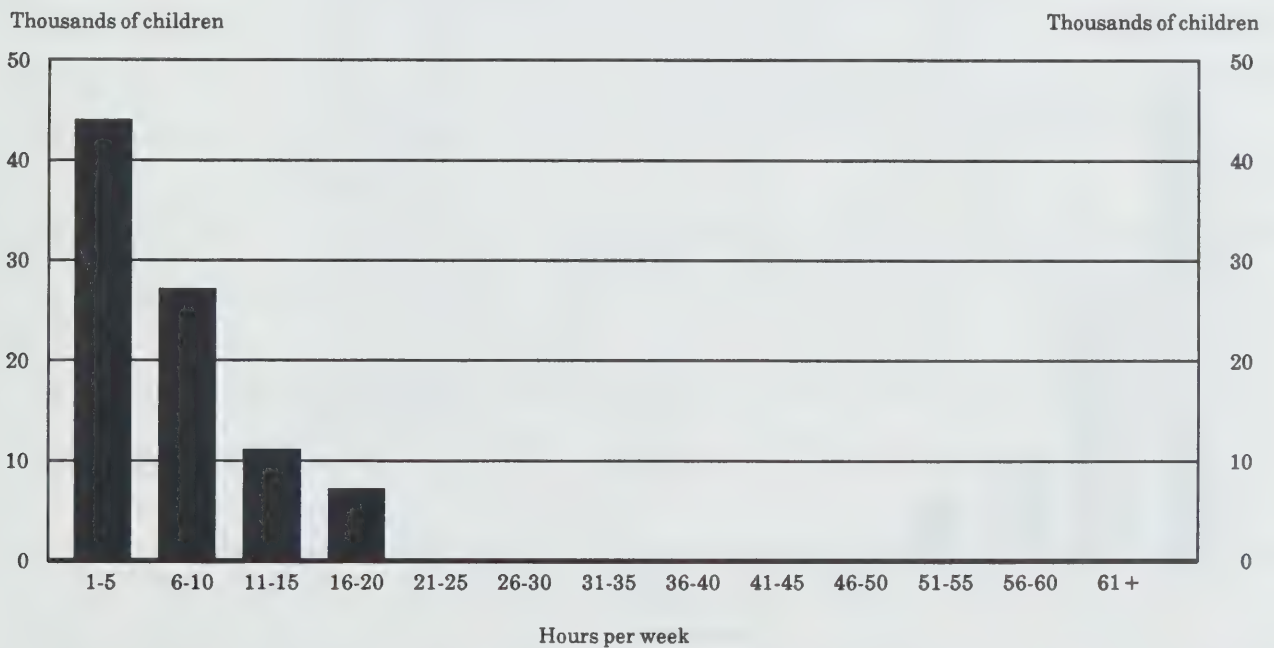


Figure 38 **Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative Not in the Child's Home, 6 to 9 Years**

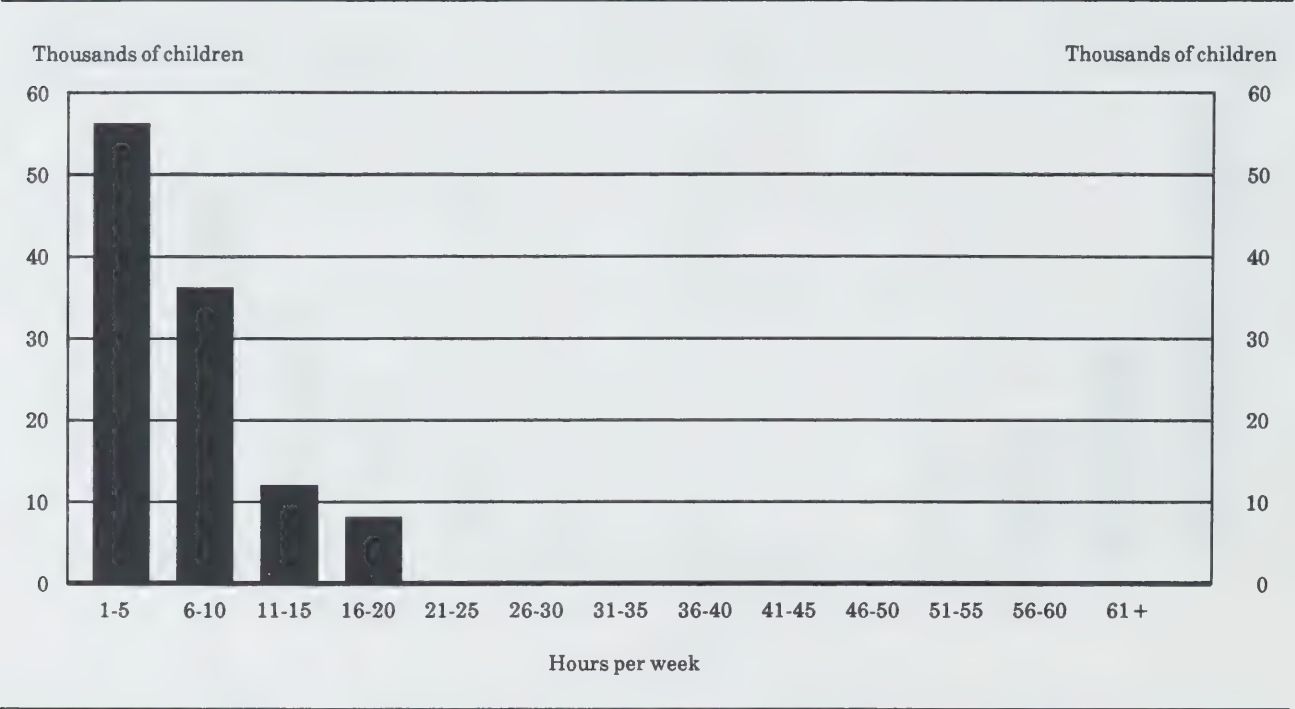


Figure 39 **Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative in the Child's Home, 6 to 9 Years**

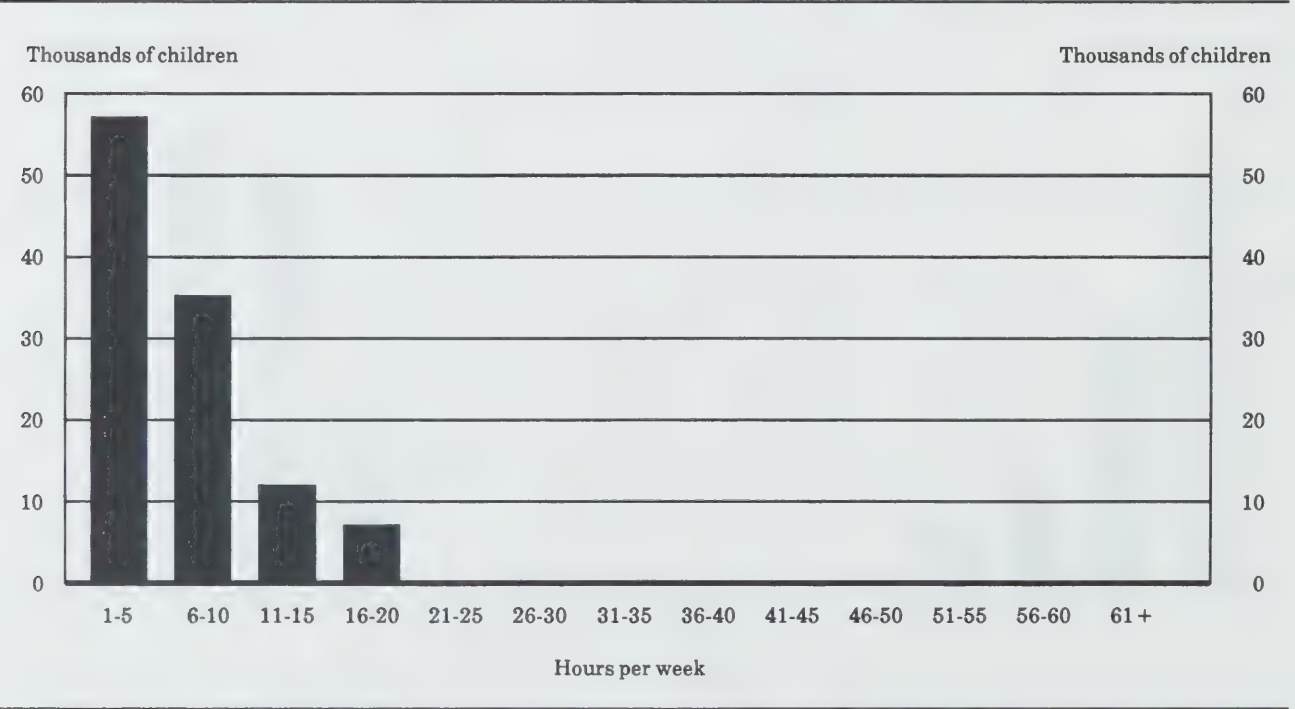
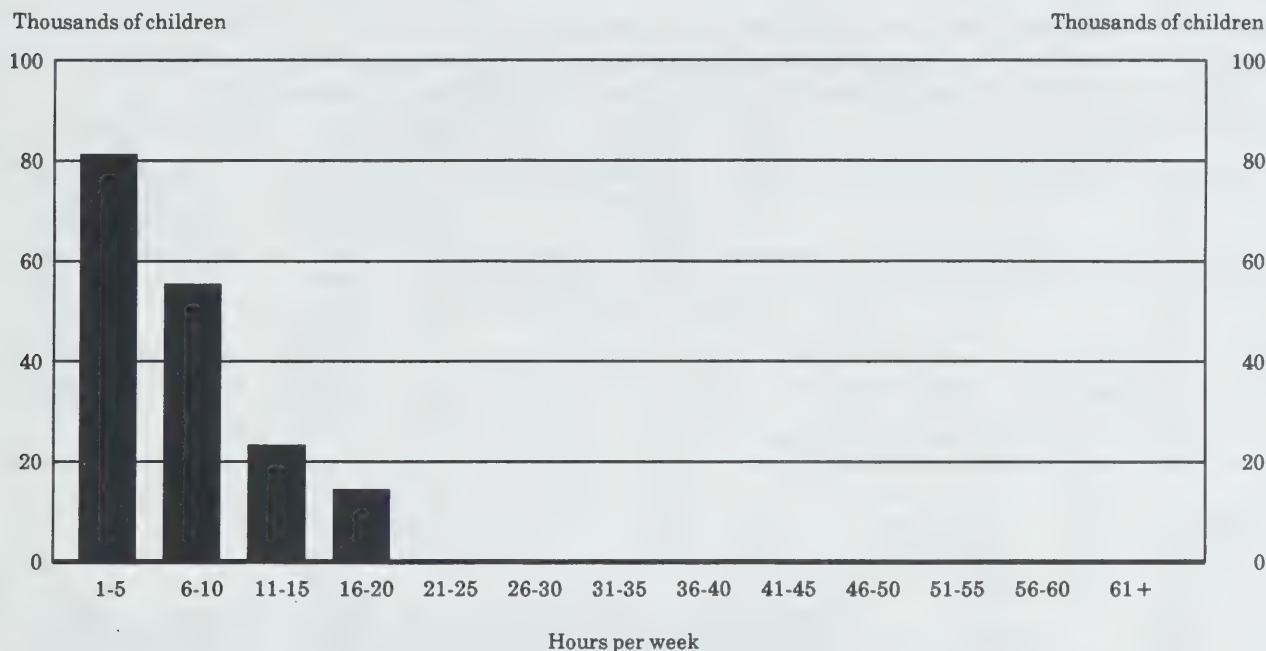


Figure 40 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Non-relative Not in the Child's Home (Unlicensed Family Day Care), 6 to 9 Years



For all care arrangements including school, relatively few 6 to 9 year-olds were in care for less than 26 to 30 hours. The largest proportion were in care for 31 to 35 hours (Figure 32). Six to 9 year-old children spent an average of 42.6 hours in all types of care during the reference week. When school hours were removed from the analysis, the largest proportions were in care for 1 to 5, 6 to 10, and 11 to 15 hours (Figure 34). For this age group, school is clearly the most used type of care in terms of average hours. Of children in this age group, 846,700 children in this age range were in supplemental child care arrangements **EXCLUDING SCHOOL** for an average of 15.4 hours during the reference week (Figure 34).

Generally, the largest numbers of 6 to 9 year-olds were in informal child care, but for relatively few hours (Figures 35 to 40). Only day care centres had relatively large numbers of children for an average of 36 to 40 hours during the reference week.

Of 6 to 9 year-olds in before- and after-school programs, the largest numbers were in these settings for 1 to 5, 6 to 10 or 11 to 15 hours in the reference week (Figure 35).

4.5 Child care used for children aged 10 to 12 years

Generally, the child care used by 10 to 12 year-olds strongly resembled that of 6 to 9 year-olds.

Table 29 Percentage and Number of Children and Average Hours in Child Care Arrangements, by Type of Care, 10 to 12 Years, Canada, 1988

	Percentage of Children in Care Arrangement	Number of Children in Care Arrangement	Average Hours of Care for Children in Care Arrangement
IP at work	6.0	63,300	16.8
Spouse at work	2.0	21,400	8.0
Family not at work	43.9	463,800	11.2
Relative at home	5.0	52,800	16.6
Relative not at home	5.6	59,600	12.0
Non-relative at home	4.2	44,700	9.4
Licensed family day care	...	...	...
Unlicensed family day care	5.5	57,800	10.1
Day care centre	...	...	...
Nursery programs	...	...	...
Kindergarten	...	...	...
Before and after school	1.1 ^a	11,100 ^a	7.8 ^a
School	98.4	1,039,800	34.0
All Care Types	98.9	1,045,300	42.6

There are 1,056,900 children in this age category. Since children participate in more than one care arrangement the rows and columns are not additive.

Table 30 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, Ranked by Number of Children and Hours in Care, by Type of Care, 10 to 12 Years, Canada, 1988

Rank	Care Type	Number of Children	Percentage of Children	Rank	Care Type	Average Hours
1	School	1,039,800	98.4	1	School	34.0
2	Family not at work	463,800	43.9	2	IP at work	16.8
3	IP at work	63,300	6.0	3	Relative at home	16.6
4	Relative not at home	59,600	5.6	4	Relative not at home	12.0
5	Unlicensed family day care	57,800	5.5	5	Family not at work	11.2
6	Relative at home	52,800	5.0	6	Unlicensed family day care	10.1
7	Non-relative at home	44,700	4.2	7	Non-relative at home	9.4
8	Spouse at work	21,400	2.0	8	Spouse at work	8.0
9	Before and after school	11,100 ^a	1.1 ^a	9	Before and after school	7.8 ^a

Of 10 to 12 year-olds, 98.4% were in school for an average of 34.0 hours during the reference week. For this age group, the most frequently used care arrangements were school, a spouse or a sibling at home or an IP at work (Table 29, Figure 41).

As with other age groups, an inverse relationship may be observed between the number of children in a type of day care and the number of hours children spend in such care. While relatives at home provided care to only 5.0% of the 10 to 12 year-olds, children in such care were there for more hours than children in other types of arrangements. Similarly, while licensed family day care accommodated only 0.2% of this age group, these children were in such care for an average of 15.4 hours, the third highest average use.

For this age group, care by a spouse or a sibling at home was used by a large proportion, but for relatively few hours. The pattern was similar for care by licensed family day care and by a parent at work.

Figure 41

Types of Care Ranked by Numbers of Children and by Average Hours of Use, 10 to 12 Years

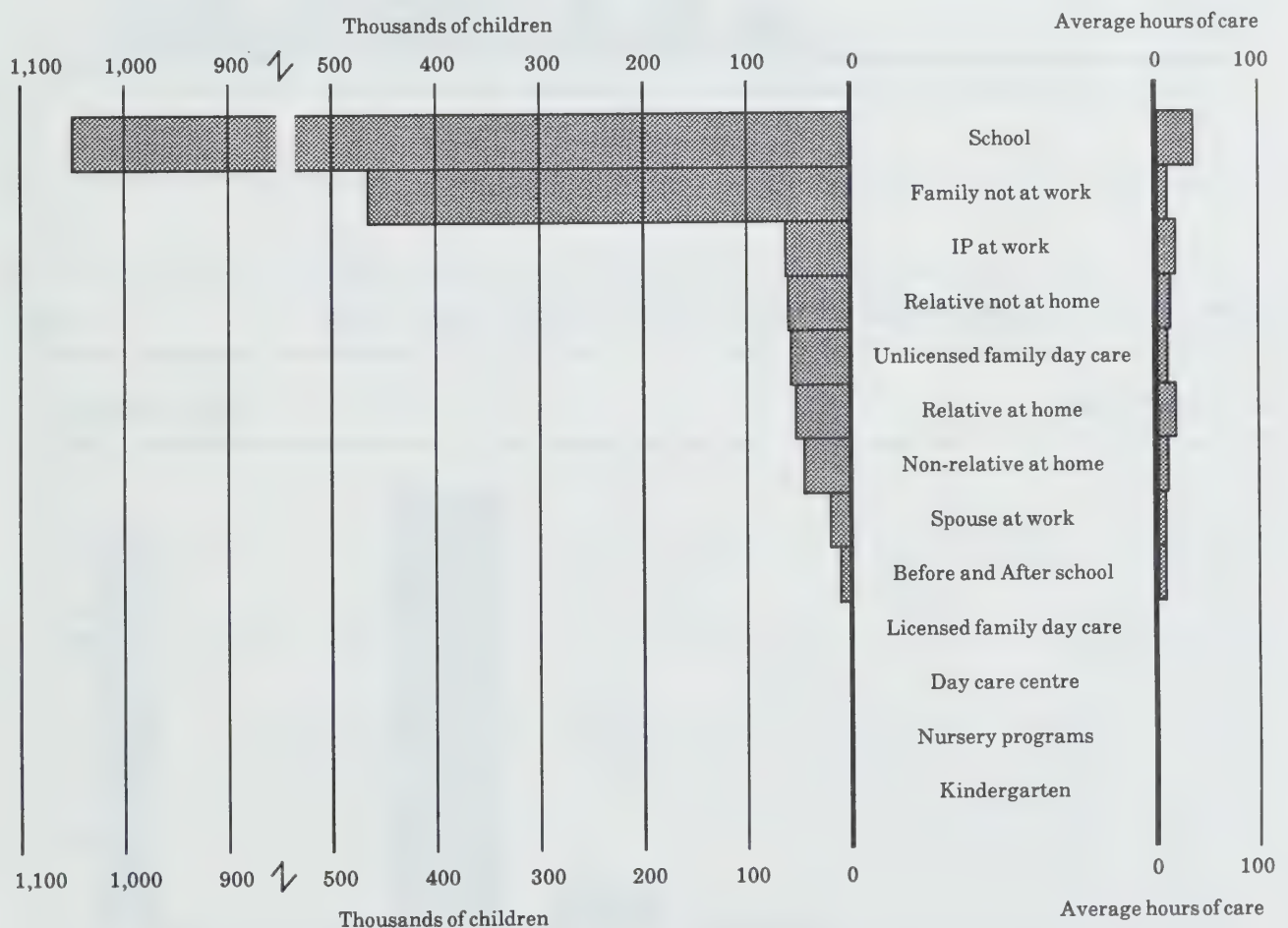


Figure 42 **Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Including School, 10 to 12 Years**

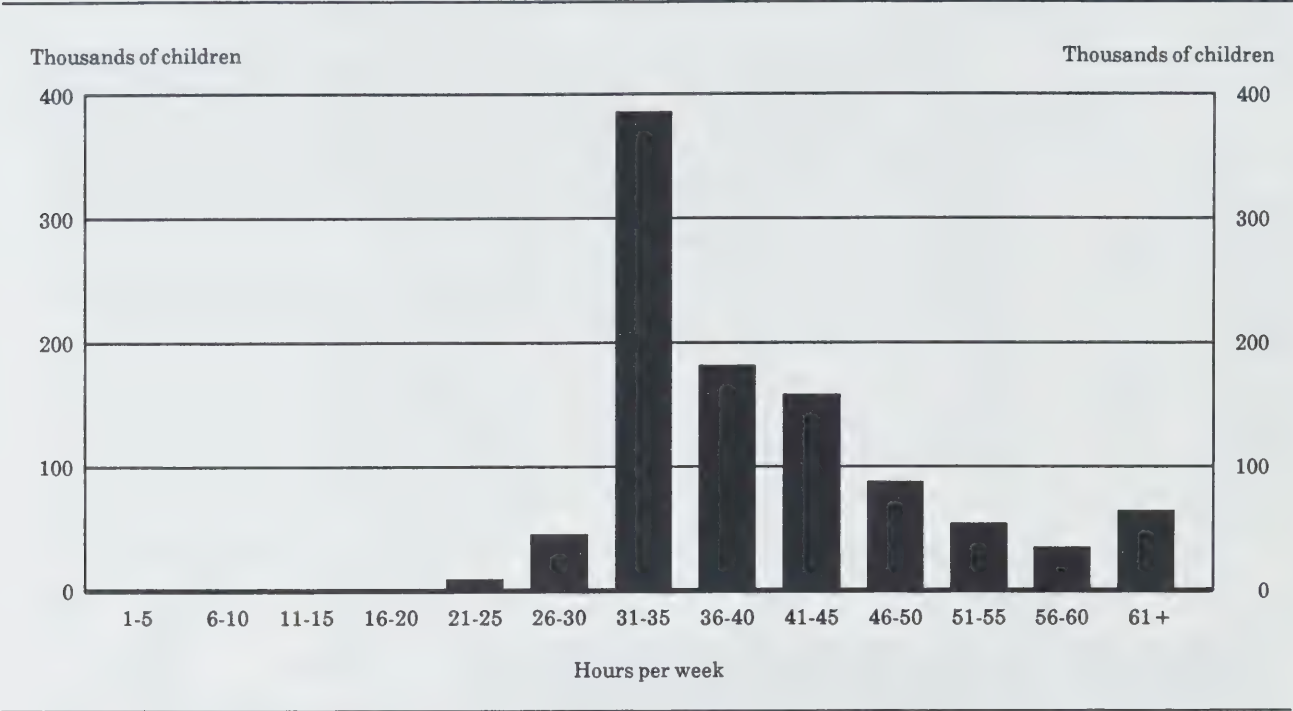


Figure 43 **Distribution of Hours in School, 10 to 12 Years**

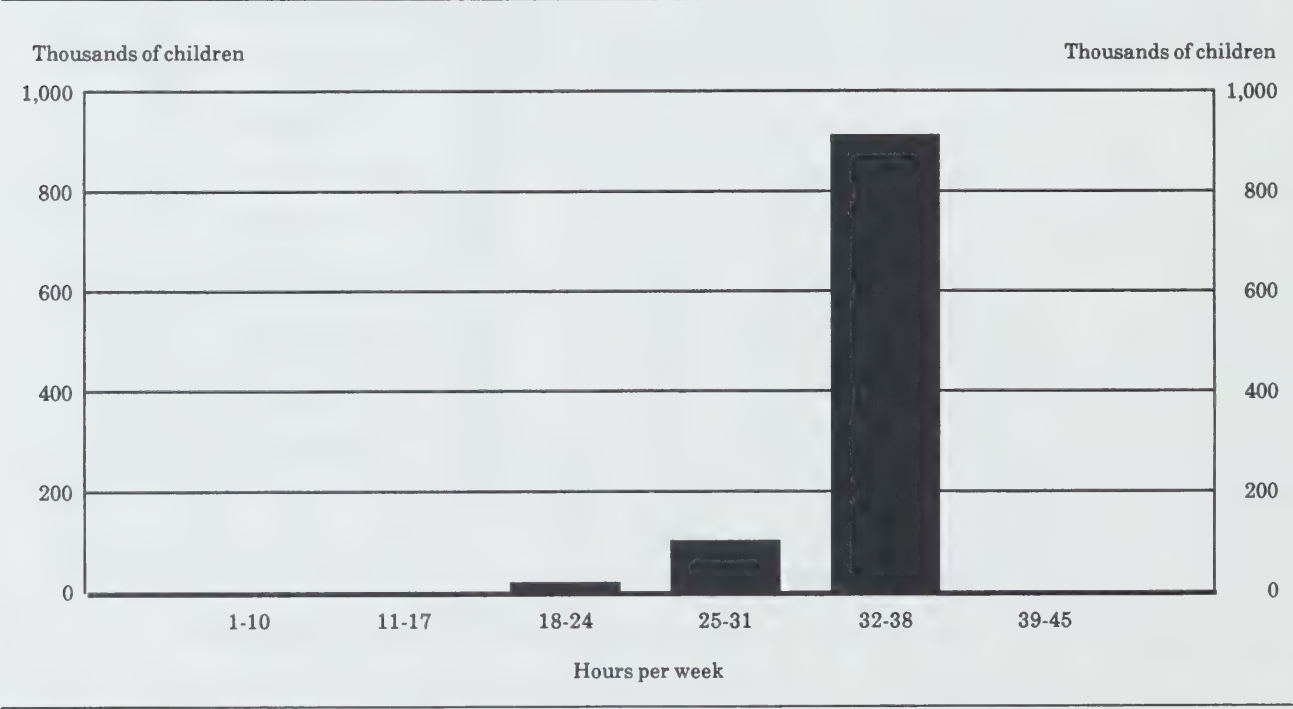


Figure 44 Distribution of Hours in All Care Arrangements, Excluding School, 10 to 12 Years

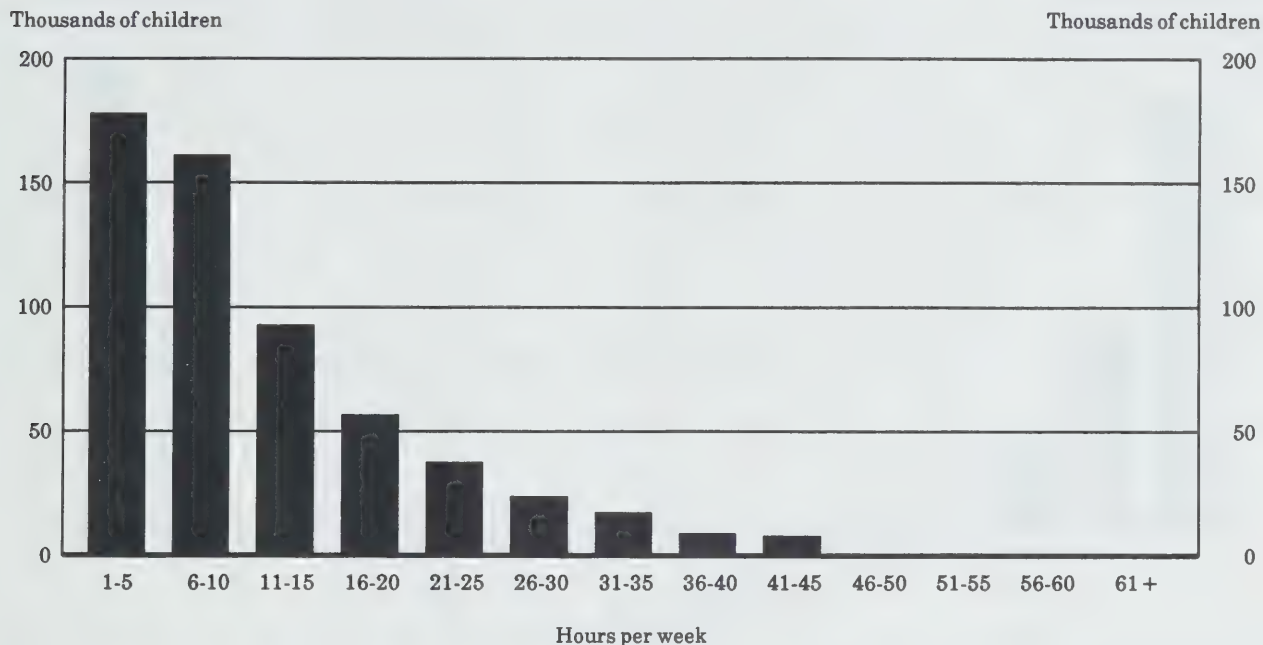


Figure 45 Distribution of Hours in Before and After School Programs, 10 to 12 Years

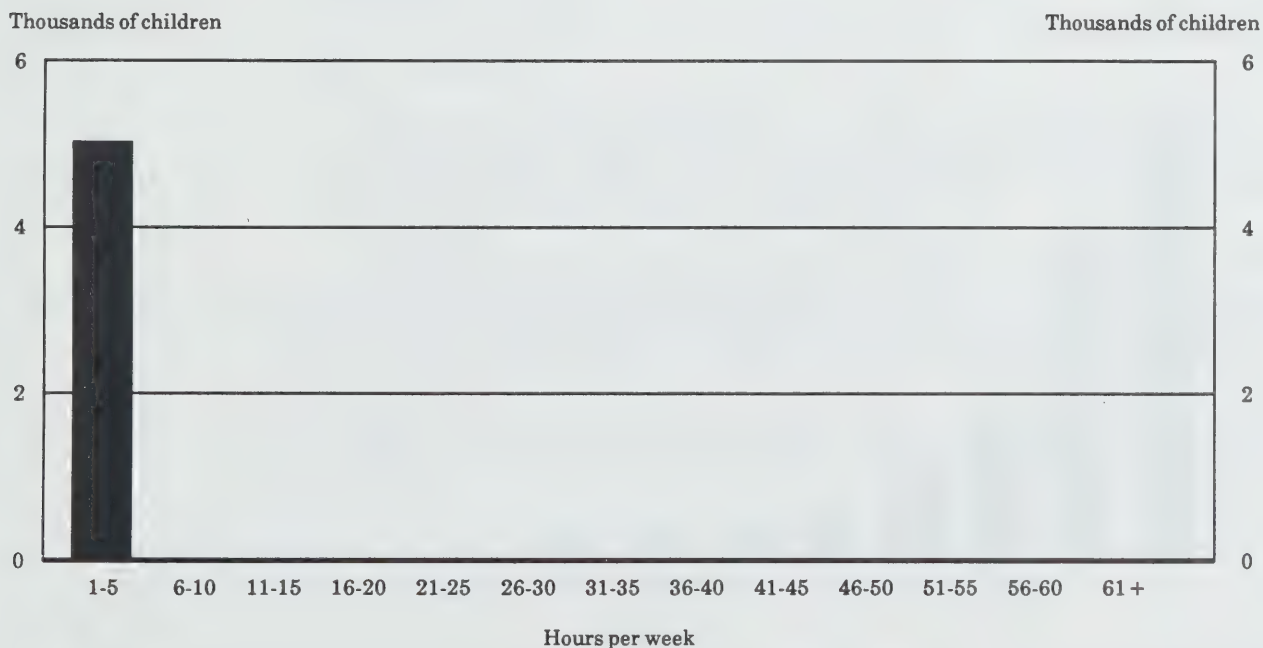


Figure 46 Distribution of Hours in Care by the IP at Work, 10 to 12 Years

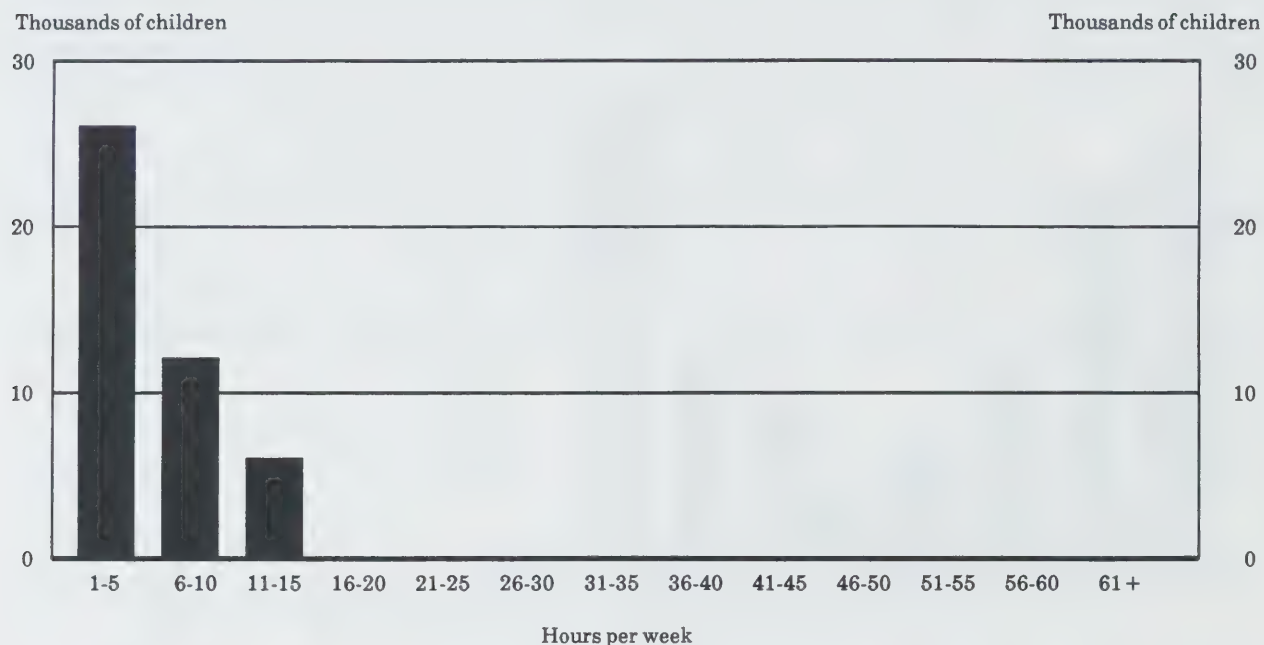


Figure 47 Distribution of Hours in Care by a Family Member in the Child's Home, 10 to 12 Years

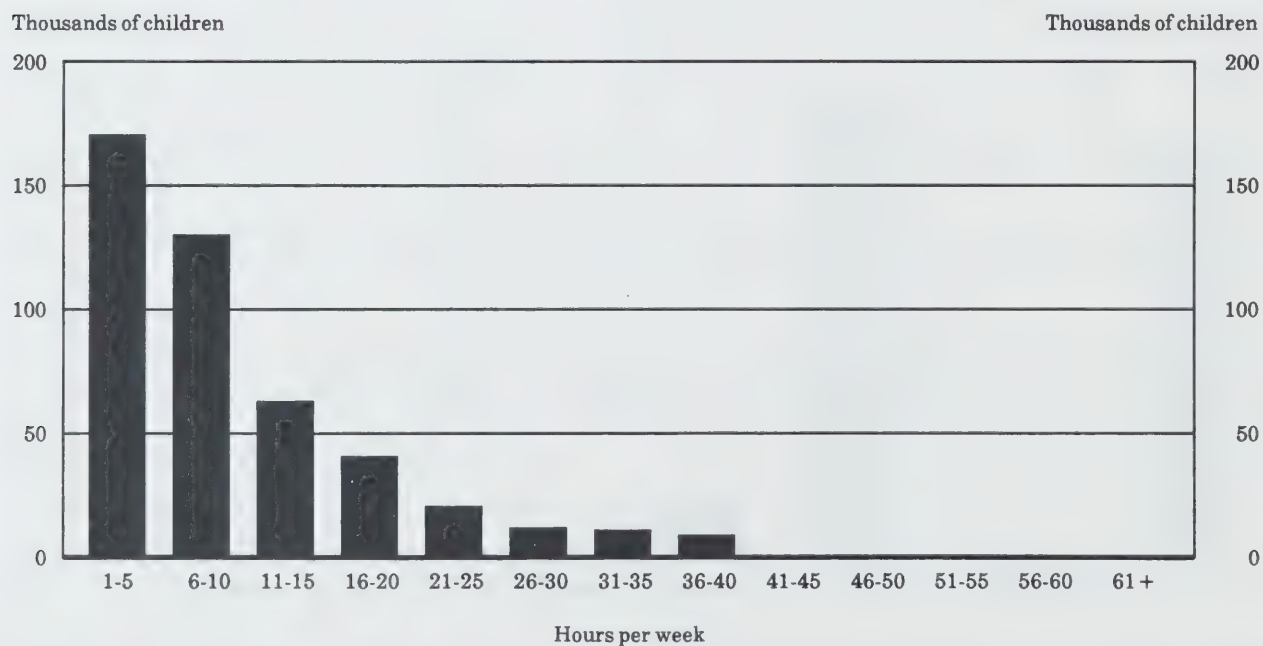
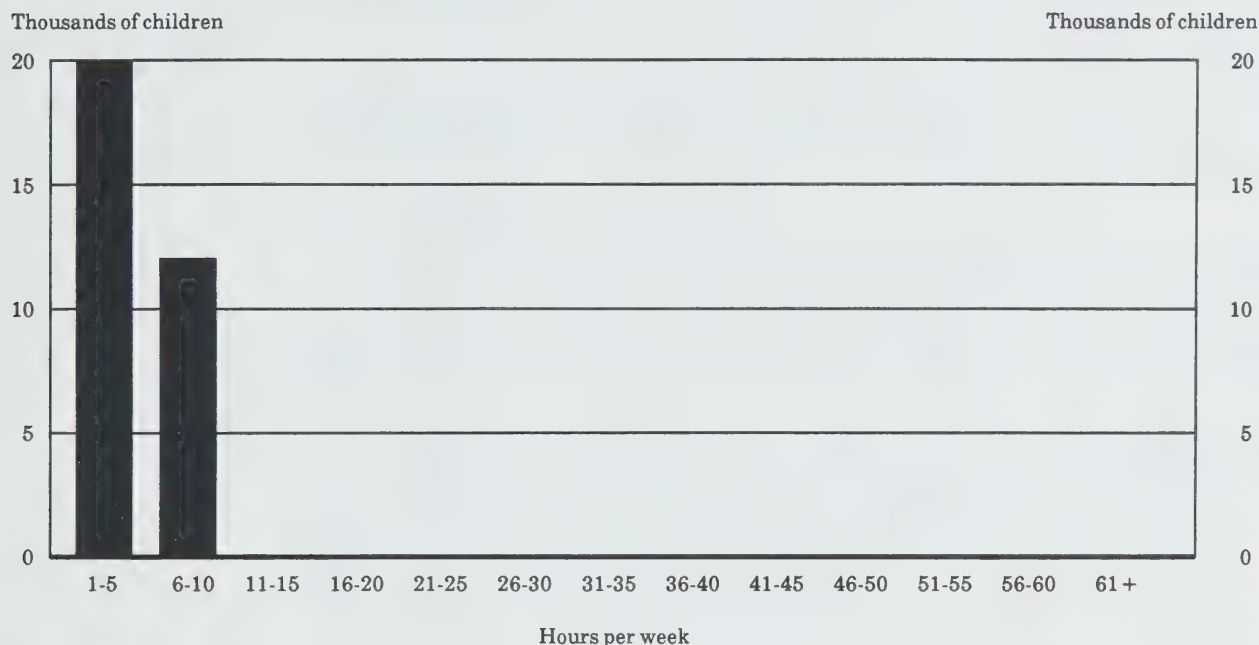


Figure 48 **Distribution of Hours in Care by a Relative in the Child's Home, 10 to 12 Years**



Participation in before- and after-school programs has its own distinct pattern. Only 1.1% of 10 to 12 year-olds were in these programs with an average of 7.8 hours per week.

4.6 Summary

This chapter attempted to discover how many children under age 13 were in what kinds of child care and for how many hours during the reference week. It reported the number of children in different age groups who were in a wide range of in-home and out-of-home, paid and unpaid settings.

Child care use differed among children in different age groups. As well, the number of hours children spent in a specific type of child care varied widely. Instead of about equal numbers of children spending about equal amounts of time in a certain care arrangement, it was found that certain types of care were used by one sub-group for relatively few hours and by other sub-groups for many more hours.

Chapter 5

OVERVIEW OF THE FINDINGS

5.1 Where are the children?

The CNCCS collected information on the variety of child care arrangements children under 13 in Canada used during one specific reference week. Many Canadian families, like the fictitious Fraser family, met their child care needs by using a combination of licensed, unlicensed, in- and out-of-home, paid and unpaid child care.

One of the major findings of this report is that supplemental child care (care used **in addition to** parental care) is the norm for most Canadian children. As reported in Chapter 3, 55.0% of infants (0 to 17 months), 63.5% of toddlers (18 to 35 months) and 79.4% of preschoolers (3 to 5 years) were in at least one non-parental child care arrangement during the reference week. Of school-aged children, 48.1% of 6 to 9 year-olds and 46.2% of 10 to 12 year-olds were in non-parental child care outside of school hours.

This report included detailed information on child care used by families for a wide variety of purposes. A subsequent report in this series, **Where Are The Children? An Analysis of Child Care Arrangements Used While Parents Work or Study**, will examine the reasons families use specific child care arrangements. The report on parental work and study patterns will address the following questions:

1. What are families' **preferred** modes of child care? Are families using them? If not, why not?
2. How did the families **search for, find and select** their current day care arrangements?
3. How did the **cost** of care influence the choice of and satisfaction with current child care arrangements?
4. How **satisfied** are parents with their child care arrangements and with the people providing them?
5. How do their **children benefit** from their child care arrangements?
6. How have parents been **disappointed or displeased** with their children's participation in these arrangements?

The data in the current report provide both a window on our understanding of child care use patterns and, to mix metaphors, a foundation upon which more detailed analyses can be built. To illustrate this point, we briefly consider the relevance of these data to four different issues in child care policy and research, each of which will be the topic of an individual report in this series.

Infant child care

Infant child care continues to generate intense discussion in both public policy and research circles. A detailed and complex picture emerges when the various sub-populations of children in infant child care are categorized by the number of hours they are in their care arrangements. Overall, there is a bimodal distribution of hours in care with most infants in care either for 1 to 10 hours or for 36 or more hours in the reference week. It could be argued theoretically, and tested empirically, that these two groups differ on the basis of child care needs, preferences, parental work hours and the relative (un)availability of child care alternatives.

Informal child care arrangements

While it is widely acknowledged that informal child care exists, there are tremendous popular, policy and research differences over the definition, use and the effects of informal child care on children and families. There has been much debate on whether the use of informal child care in Canada is a “crisis” in the unavailability of quality care, or a major informal family and neighbourhood resource. The CNCCS database permits extensive analysis of the many different forms of informal child care in Canada today. The differences among and characteristics within the different forms of informal child care can assist policy developers to draw accurate portraits of the users of informal child care. Once these differences among care types can be carefully delineated, it becomes crucial to examine the kinds of background and contextual factors outlined above regarding infant child care. Fundamental to this inquiry are questions relating to the parents’ reasons for using, preferences for child care and their satisfaction levels with their current informal child care arrangements.

School-age child care and child care for non-standard hours

Two very specific sets of child care needs are those related to school-aged children and for children who are in need of care outside of the traditional Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. time frames. The data reported in Chapter 4 showed that the vast majority of 6 to 12 year-old children participated in school for an average of 35 hours in the reference week. Children in the 6 to 9 year-old group averaged an additional 15 hours per week in child care and children in the 10 to 12 year-old group averaged an additional 14 hours. Continuing investigations of the child care needs of school-aged children must examine in greater detail precisely where school-aged children spend their non-school hours, their parents’ preferred modes of child care, the reasons they may not be using their preferred modes of care and their level of satisfaction with their current child care arrangements.

The question of non-standard parental work hours is distinct from, yet related to, the question of school-aged child care. One conclusion that could be drawn from the popular literature on “latch-key children” and the “3:00 syndrome” (when workplace productivity allegedly declines due to parental concerns about their school-aged children) is that extending after-school programs to 5:00 p.m. would cover the hours that parents are presumed to be working. However, with increasing numbers of parents working non-standard hours (e.g., grocery clerks in 24-hour supermarkets, realtors holding open houses on Sunday, nurses working 12-hour shifts, etc.) it is far from clear that programs providing an additional two hours during the work day would meet these parents’ needs.

5.2 Conclusion

Researchers and policy analysts can use this report as a base for further child care research, particularly on child care costs, parents' child care preferences and parents' satisfaction with various types of child care.

Future reports based on the CNCCS will focus on the main method of child care used while the IP was working. Within this frame, these reports will examine parents' search for, selection of, satisfaction with and costs of the main method of child care used while the IP worked during the reference week.

As for the fictitious Fraser family, much has changed since they were surveyed. Maddy gave birth to a daughter, Annie, and took 15 weeks of maternity leave. She considered hiring a nanny (a non-relative, in-home, paid caregiver) to help her care for her three children, but the cost was too high. Maddy and Bill put Annie on a waiting list for one of a few spaces in an infant day care, though there is little likelihood of a space becoming available. However, Mrs. Billingsly agreed to care for the baby on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Bill applied for a position that would leave him with more time to care for the children. Unfortunately, he didn't get it. However, Maddy's workplace allows her to work at home on Wednesday mornings. This gives her more flexibility to meet her family and work responsibilities. A future challenge for the Frasers will be to find suitable child care arrangements as their children grow older.

ENDNOTES

1. Consult the **Canadian National Child Care Study: Introductory Report** (Lero, Pence, Shields, Brockman & Goelman, 1992) for details about the study's objectives and methodology.
2. See Goelman, Pence, Lero & Brockman, **Where Are The Children? An Analysis of Child Care Arrangements Used While Parents Work or Study** (In Preparation) for more in-depth analyses on work and child care use.
3. "Spousal" care at home was combined with "self care" and "sibling care" due to small numbers in the latter two categories.





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Appendix A Newfoundland

Appendix A-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Newfoundland, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	11,900	5,600	47.3	28.3
18-35 months	12,100	7,600	62.8	28.9
3-5 years	25,500	18,100	70.7	27.0
6-9 years	37,000	17,000	45.8	15.9
10-12 years	30,100	11,600	38.7	15.0
Total	116,600	59,900	51.4	21.9

Appendix A-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Newfoundland, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	11,900	5,000	41.7	22.9
18-35 months	12,100	6,500	53.9	24.7
3-5 years	25,500	17,000	66.6	23.2
6-9 years	37,000	13,200	35.6	12.3
10-12 years	30,100	8,700	43.1	11.2
Total	116,600	50,300	43.1	18.5

Appendix A-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Newfoundland, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	11,900	2,400 ^a	20.4	29.8
18-35 months	12,100	3,600	29.9	30.1
3-5 years	25,500	8,300	32.4	23.6
6-9 years	37,000	5,900	16.0	13.3
10-12 years	30,100	1,800 ^a	5.9 ^a	12.3 ^a
Total	116,600	22,000	18.9	21.7

Appendix B Prince Edward Island

Appendix B-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Prince Edward Island, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	2,800	1,800	65.3	30.0
18-35 months	3,000	1,700	59.1	27.4
3-5 years	5,800	4,200	71.9	25.8
6-9 years	7,900	4,500	56.7	17.3
10-12 years	6,000	3,500	57.6	16.3
Total	25,500	15,700	61.6	22.0

Appendix B-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Prince Edward Island, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	2,800	1,600	55.5	24.8
18-35 months	3,000	1,400	48.9	23.2
3-5 years	5,800	3,700	64.2	21.3
6-9 years	7,900	3,600	45.0	11.7
10-12 years	6,000	2,600	42.9	9.9
Total	25,500	12,900	50.5	17.0

Appendix B-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Prince Edward Island, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	2,800	900	32.2	29.7
18-35 months	3,000	900	31.9	29.6
3-5 years	5,800	2,400	41.8	21.9
6-9 years	7,900	1,300	17.1	14.6
10-12 years	6,000	400 ^a	6.2 ^a	12.0 ^a
Total	25,500	6,000	23.5	22.0

Appendix C Nova Scotia

Appendix C-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Nova Scotia, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	18,700	11,600	62.4	26.3
18-35 months	18,100	13,700	75.6	29.9
3-5 years	35,800	28,500	79.6	28.0
6-9 years	48,300	27,100	56.1	16.3
10-12 years	36,800	18,900	51.4	14.5
Total	157,500	99,800	63.3	22.3

Appendix C-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Nova Scotia, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	18,700	10,500	56.1	22.5
18-35 months	18,100	12,400	68.5	25.2
3-5 years	35,800	26,200	73.3	23.2
6-9 years	48,300	22,400	46.3	11.8
10-12 years	36,800	15,100	41.0	9.8
Total	157,500	86,500	54.9	18.1

Appendix C-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Nova Scotia, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	18,700	6,100	32.9	25.5
18-35 months	18,100	8,300	45.7	27.3
3-5 years	35,800	15,600	43.7	19.6
6-9 years	48,300	10,800	22.3	11.1
10-12 years	36,800	4,400	11.9	9.6
Total	157,500	45,200	28.7	18.8

Appendix D New Brunswick

Appendix D-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, New Brunswick, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	14,400	8,400	58.5	28.2
18-35 months	14,300	9,600	66.7	28.7
3-5 years	29,400	20,900	71.0	27.5
6-9 years	41,100	23,400	57.0	14.3
10-12 years	32,700	18,300	56.0	14.5
Total	132,000	80,600	61.1	20.9

Appendix D-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, New Brunswick, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	14,400	7,700	53.3	24.8
18-35 months	14,300	8,800	61.3	24.9
3-5 years	29,400	19,700	66.9	22.9
6-9 years	41,100	19,600	47.7	11.1
10-12 years	32,700	14,900	45.5	10.6
Total	132,000	70,600	53.5	17.5

Appendix D-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, New Brunswick, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	14,400	4,900	34.3	31.3
18-35 months	14,300	5,800	40.7	29.5
3-5 years	29,400	15,300	51.8	23.7
6-9 years	41,100	11,600	28.3	11.8
10-12 years	32,700	4,500	13.8	12.1
Total	132,000	42,200	32.0	20.9

Appendix E Quebec

Appendix E-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Quebec, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	129,700	76,100	58.6	25.2
18-35 months	122,700	83,500	68.1	31.0
3-5 years	256,100	209,200	81.7	30.1
6-9 years	373,300	200,500	53.7	15.4
10-12 years	275,900	149,500	54.2	14.4
Total	1,157,800	718,800	62.1	22.3

Appendix E-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Quebec, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	129,700	70,200	54.1	22.2
18-35 months	122,700	76,700	62.5	27.6
3-5 years	256,100	210,400	78.6	26.1
6-9 years	373,300	173,100	46.4	12.6
10-12 years	275,900	122,400	44.4	10.2
Total	1,157,800	643,800	55.6	19.2

Appendix E-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Quebec, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	129,700	44,400	34.2	26.0
18-35 months	122,700	58,900	48.0	29.7
3-5 years	256,100	135,900	53.0	26.0
6-9 years	373,300	106,300	28.5	12.5
10-12 years	275,900	33,200	12.0	10.8
Total	1,157,800	378,800	32.7	21.5

Appendix F Ontario

Appendix F-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Ontario, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	205,000	126,700	61.8	27.8
18-35 months	197,500	142,700	72.3	31.6
3-5 years	387,100	335,700	86.7	28.7
6-9 years	501,800	307,400	61.3	15.3
10-12 years	369,900	230,700	62.4	14.2
Total	1,661,200	1,143,200	68.8	22.5

Appendix F-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Ontario, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	205,000	114,500	55.9	23.9
18-35 months	197,500	128,800	65.2	27.0
3-5 years	387,100	318,500	82.3	25.0
6-9 years	501,800	246,500	49.1	11.2
10-12 years	369,900	175,500	47.5	9.8
Total	1,661,200	983,800	59.2	19.0

Appendix F-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Ontario, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	205,000	67,300	32.8	27.6
18-35 months	197,500	89,800	45.5	28.8
3-5 years	387,100	173,300	44.8	23.2
6-9 years	501,800	121,100	24.1	11.3
10-12 years	396,900	32,400	8.8	11.7
Total	1,661,200	483,900	29.1	21.1

Appendix G Manitoba

Appendix G-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Manitoba, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	24,200	15,400	63.9	22.2
18-35 months	22,500	16,600	73.8	25.4
3-5 years	44,800	38,500	86.0	28.4
6-9 years	58,600	37,600	64.2	14.5
10-12 years	43,600	27,300	62.8	12.9
Total	193,600	135,500	70.0	20.3

Appendix G-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Manitoba, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	24,200	13,600	56.1	16.5
18-35 months	22,500	15,000	66.5	20.6
3-5 years	44,800	36,900	82.3	22.8
6-9 years	58,600	29,400	50.2	10.6
10-12 years	43,600	22,200	51.0	9.4
Total	193,600	117,000	60.4	16.2

Appendix G-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Manitoba, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	24,200	7,300	30.2	20.4
18-35 months	22,500	9,100	40.2	23.7
3-5 years	44,800	21,800	48.7	19.6
6-9 years	58,600	12,500	21.4	10.3
10-12 years	43,600	...	...	...
Total	193,600	53,000	27.4	17.9

Appendix H Saskatchewan

Appendix H-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Saskatchewan, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	24,500	16,400	67.0	26.6
18-35 months	22,900	16,500	71.8	27.2
3-5 years	47,900	40,000	83.5	28.4
6-9 years	62,800	40,000	63.7	15.3
10-12 years	45,600	28,500	62.6	15.3
Total	203,700	141,400	69.4	21.7

Appendix H-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Saskatchewan, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	24,500	14,400	58.8	21.7
18-35 months	22,900	14,100	61.5	21.8
3-5 years	47,900	37,300	78.0	23.2
6-9 years	62,800	31,900	50.8	12.1
10-12 years	45,600	23,400	51.3	11.1
Total	203,700	121,100	59.5	17.6

Appendix H-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Saskatchewan, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	24,500	9,200	37.6	25.8
18-35 months	22,900	9,700	42.1	22.4
3-5 years	47,900	22,900	47.8	20.9
6-9 years	62,800	13,800	21.9	12.4
10-12 years	45,600	2,500 ^a	5.4 ^a	11.9 ^a
Total	203,700	58,000	28.5	19.5

Appendix I Alberta

Appendix I-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, Alberta, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	65,800	40,000	60.7	25.7
18-35 months	58,300	40,900	70.1	28.5
3-5 years	118,800	100,800	84.8	27.1
6-9 years	147,000	90,700	61.7	15.4
10-12 years	102,600	65,700	64.1	17.2
Total	492,500	338,000	68.6	22.0

Appendix I-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, Alberta, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	65,800	35,900	54.5	21.5
18-35 months	58,300	35,100	60.3	22.9
3-5 years	118,800	94,200	79.3	21.9
6-9 years	147,000	73,100	49.8	10.8
10-12 years	102,600	52,800	51.4	12.3
Total	492,500	291,100	59.1	17.4

Appendix I-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, Alberta, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	65,800	21,000	32.0	24.3
18-35 months	58,300	24,400	41.9	24.5
3-5 years	118,800	57,900	48.7	20.0
6-9 years	147,000	31,700	21.6	10.5
10-12 years	102,600	7,100 ^a	6.9 ^a	12.3 ^a
Total	492,500	142,200	28.9	18.9

Appendix J British Columbia

Appendix J-1 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Child Care, by Age, British Columbia, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one arrangement	Average hours for users of arrangements
0-17 months	62,100	38,000	61.1	22.2
18-35 months	60,500	42,500	70.3	25.4
3-5 years	122,700	104,200	85.0	23.4
6-9 years	159,100	98,600	62.0	16.3
10-12 years	113,700	63,800	56.1	15.6
Total	518,000	347,000	67.0	20.1

Appendix J-2 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Non-parental Child Care, by Age, British Columbia, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one non-parental arrangement	Average hours for users of non-parental arrangements
0-17 months	62,100	34,100	54.9	17.3
18-35 months	60,500	38,800	64.2	21.9
3-5 years	122,700	98,200	80.1	19.1
6-9 years	159,100	78,200	49.1	12.4
10-12 years	113,700	51,000	44.9	13.1
Total	518,000	300,400	58.0	16.5

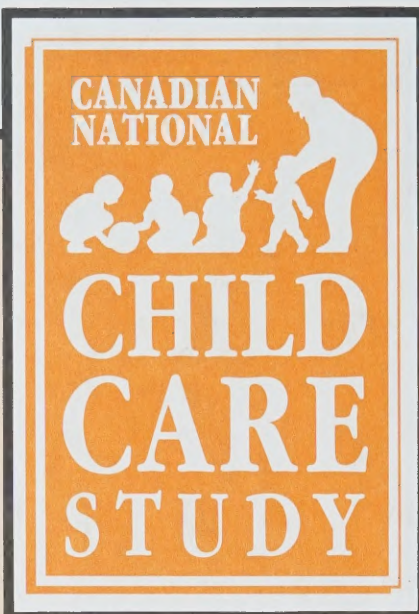
Appendix J-3 Number and Percentage of Children and Average Hours in Paid Child Care, by Age, British Columbia, 1988

Age	Total number	Number of children with at least one paid arrangement	Percentage of children with at least one paid arrangement	Average hours for users of paid arrangements
0-17 months	62,100	14,800	23.8	22.0
18-35 months	60,500	26,500	43.9	22.6
3-5 years	122,700	60,500	49.3	16.6
6-9 years	159,100	37,400	23.5	11.4
10-12 years	113,700	8,000 ^a	7.0 ^a	16.2 ^a
Total	518,000	147,200	28.4	16.9

The Canadian National Child Care Study

is a collaborative research project among four members of the National Day Care Research Network, Statistics Canada, and Health and Welfare Canada.

It was designed to provide comprehensive and reliable information about



Canadian families and their child care arrangements, parental work patterns, and factors that affect families as they strive to maintain their family's economic well-being and meet the needs of their children.

Major research reports based on the study can be ordered directly from Statistics Canada.



Introductory Report

Where are the children? An overview of child care arrangements in Canada

Where are the children? An analysis of child care arrangements used while parents work or study

Parental work patterns and child care needs

Work place benefits and flexibility: A perspective on parents' experiences

Patterns of child care in one-and two-parent families

Stay-at-home parents: An option for Canadian families

Canadian child care in context: Perspectives from the Provinces and Territories



Additional research reports are being planned that will address:

- *Infant Care*
- *Care for School-Age Children*
- *Family Day Care Arrangements*
- *Urban and Rural Families*
- *Immigrant Families and Their Child Care Arrangements*
- *Children with Special Needs*
- *Work, Family and Child Care*
- *Affordability and Availability of Child Care Alternatives*
- *Perceived Effects of Child Care Experiences on Children and Their Parents*
- *Inter-Provincial Differences in Child Care Use Patterns*

Researchers can obtain a copy of the public use microdata tape of the National Child Care Survey and a copy of the Microdata Users' Guide by contacting the Special Surveys Group, Household Surveys Division of Statistics Canada.

